

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECORD

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A Librarian's Calendar

January 25th.—Research in librarianship course, Chaucer House, 2.30 p.m. A. G. Mackenzie and I. Gibb on "Research into library co-operation".

January 25th-27th.—L.A. Committees and Council meeting.

February 1st.—Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Medals: closing date for suggestions.

February 1st.—Greater London Div. (A.A.L.) Kensington Central Library, 7 p.m. A.G.M. followed by tour of library.

February 2nd.—Northern Branch, Newcastle upon Tyne Lit. and Phil. Lecture Hall, 3.15 p.m. M. C. Pottinger on "Impressions of Russian libraries". 6.15 p.m. A.G.M.'s of N. Branch & A.A.L. (N.E. Division).

February 8th.—Research in librarianship course, Aslib, 3 Belgrave Sq., S.W.1. G. Thomas on "The information needs of scientists" and A. W. McClellan on "The readership survey and the public library".

February 16th.—S.E. Group, Reference, Special and Information Section, Chaucer House, 6.30 p.m. A.G.M., followed by R. G. Walford on "Copyright".

February 22nd.—London and Home Counties Branch, Chaucer House, 6 p.m. A.G.M., followed by Roy Jenkins, M.P., on "The struggle against literary censorship".

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECORD

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Vol. 63 No. 1

January 1961

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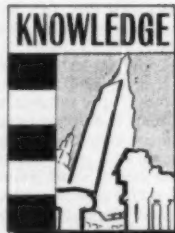
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SIR HANS SLOANE, 1660-1753

AS A COLLECTOR

Sir Frank Francis, K.C.B., M.A., D.Litt., F.S.A.

Director and Principal Librarian, British Museum

A FEW weeks ago, on the 15th October, a memorial tablet was unveiled at Kilyleagh, Co. Down, the birthplace of Sir Hans Sloane, to mark the 300th anniversary of his birth.

Sloane was born at Kilyleagh on 16th April, 1660. He became a wealthy and successful doctor and in his time held the important posts of physician to Christ's Hospital, physician-general to King George I, and physician-in-general to King George II. His contribution to the profession of medicine was, in the words of Sir Gavin de Beer, "to enlist the recuperative forces of nature itself by the sparing prescription of simple remedies in place of the medical magic and polypharmacy which were still in vogue." While he gained wealth and position from his medical practice, it is by reason of his collections and his disposition of them by his will, that he has won undying fame. On his death, on 11th January, 1753, he directed that his collection or museum, "which consists of too great a variety to be particularly described, but I mean all my library of books, drawings, manuscripts, prints, medals and coins, ancient and modern, antiquities, seals, . . . cameos, and intaglios . . ." and so on, should be placed under the care of a body of trustees and made accessible to students for the advancement of learning to all posterity. His collections were not to be a mere "cabinet of curiosities", but an instrument of education and research. To this end he directed that the collections should be offered to the nation to form a national museum.

Sloane's services to the British Museum and the British people and through them to the world at large are very great. It was entirely owing to him that the Museum was founded in the first place, and from the outset given its comprehensive character. The breadth and range of his collections made it possible, moreover, for the Museum to provide appropriate housing for the Harleian and Cotton collections of Manuscripts, for the "Old" Royal Library, for David Garrick's collection of plays and Crache-rode's wonderful library of fine editions of the classics and fine bindings, and to benefit during the first 50 years of its existence from the growing

interest in classical and Egyptian antiquities. Sloane's "curiosities" in the fields of ethnography, and medieval art, while not so extensive, provided the basis on which later Museum officials have been able to build with no small degree of success.

The following short account of Sloane as a collector was prepared as a contribution to a symposium on Sir Hans by the Osler Club of London. The two accompanying papers, by Dr. W. S. C. Copeman and Dr. W. T. Stern, dealt respectively with Sloane as a medical man and Sloane as a botanist; Dr. Copeman showed him to be a sound practical physician who applied the scientific method of experiment in medicine: as a botanist he wrote a work of lasting value on the Flora of Jamaica, and contributed greatly to botanical science by the wealth of his herbaria. This tribute to him as a collector bears all the signs of its preparation for a particular occasion, but it gives some indication, I hope, of the zeal and the single-mindedness which characterized his collecting.

The Board Room of the British Museum in which the three addresses were delivered contains portraits of the owners of the foundation collections and of former Directors of the Museum. It is dominated by a full-length portrait of Sloane painted by Godfrey Kneller who lived in Great Russell Street and was thus a near neighbour to Sloane at No. 3, Bloomsbury Place. The Museum also has a fine bust of Sloane by John Michael Rysbrack. This is placed in the centre portion of the King's Library accompanied by busts of Sir Robert Cotton, Sir Joseph Banks and Dr. Charles Burney, whose notable collections also form part of the British Museum Library. At the time the paper was read, there was on view also in the King's Library a fine exhibition commemorating the quingentenary of Prince Henry the Navigator, in which were a number of maps and manuscripts which came from Sloane's collections—a demonstration, if any were needed, of the quality and value of the material which the Museum acquired as a result of his far-sighted testamentary dispositions, and an indication, which would no doubt have

gratified him, of the lasting quality of the work he put into building up his library and his museum.

This brings me, at length, to Sir Hans Sloane as a collector. I should say at the outset that Sir Gavin de Beer, my former colleague as Director of the sister—or daughter—establishment at South Kensington, ought really to be writing this paper. His admirable book on Sir Hans, which came out in the year of the bicentenary of Sir Hans's death, covers the ground extremely well, and leaves me no alternative but to rely to a very great extent on it.

Let me start by quoting what Sir Gavin says about Sloane as a collector:

"In the field in which his name is (or should be) a household word, that of collector, Sloane is entitled to admiration. Little attention need be paid to those who have sneered that Sloane was rapacious or indiscriminate in his pursuit of natural or artificial 'curiosities'; on the contrary, it may be claimed that in what he collected himself, or enabled others to collect, or in the collections which he bought, he did remarkably well to bring together so much of such great interest. Of the 79,575 objects, not counting the plants in his enormous herbarium, which his collections contained when he died, it would be surprising if all were of equal value. But the fact of having made such a collection must be counted as a landmark in the history of learning, for it made possible the progress in scholarship and natural history which would never have been accomplished had it not been for the provision of such an incomparable working tool."

For the British Museum it is surely significant that Sir Hans was not only President of the Royal Society and of the Society of Physicians, but also followed the collecting tradition of the renaissance, a tradition represented in this country in the seventeenth century by the Tradescants' Museum at Lambeth and by Courten's collection in the Middle Temple which Sloane inherited in 1702. Dr. Thomas Birch, Secretary of the Royal Society and himself a benefactor of the Museum, said of the Museum when it was founded:

"... The Treasure, which he (Sloane) bequeath'd to his Country, & which is now purchas'd for it by the Parliament, may be attended with numberless Advantages to the Public. Here the young Physician, Chemist, & Apothecary may become well acquainted with every Substance, Animal, Vegetable, or Mineral

that is ever employ'd in Medicine: The Curious in Ores & Metals by viewing Specimens of every Sort, will be instructed in what Beds of Stone or other Matter they actually are found, & by that means will be enabled to judge what Metals or Metallic Bodies the Rocks or Mountains, which they examine, may probably contain; thereby rich mines, with which Great Britain unquestionably abounds, may more easily be discover'd. Even the Clays, Okers, Sands, Stones, Marles, earth &c., may lead to the finding of better materials for the Potter, the Painter, the Glassmaker, the Lapidary, & many other artists, to improve their Manufactures. In short, the Naturalist will find in this Museum almost everything, which he can wish, & will be greatly assisted in his Inquiries & Observations by the Catalogue in 38 Volumes in fol. & 8 in quarto, examining, containing short accounts of every particular, with Reference to the Authors who have treated of them."

How did Sloane amass these great collections? A contemporary opinion, that of Dr. William Stukeley, whose commonplace book is preserved in the Bodleian Library, gives perhaps as good an answer to this question as can be expected though his words are not free from malicious undertones:

"Sr. Hans Sloan is an instance of the great power of industry which can advance a man to a considerable height in the worlds esteem with moderate parts & learning. industry may be said to have raised Sr. Hans, as Art did Radcliff, fortune Mead. Sr. Hans has had this piece of luck too, that being a Vertuoso has made his fortune which generally ruins others. indeed the whole business of his life has been a continued series of the greatest vigilance over his own interest, & all the friendships he ever makes are to himself. the same industry has made him perfect master of the knowledg of his immense collection, begun by Mr. Charltons gift, carry'd on by his own riches & pains & interest, & may be said to be the greatest that ever was a private mans possession, his estate now being excessively great, dos but double his diligence for getting more, tho' he has no male heirs to leave it to, & his daughters are very richly marry'd."

Sloane did not however add to his collections only by the purchase of complete collections. A study of sale catalogues, such for example as that of Sir Thomas Browne, author of *Religio Medici*, shows that he went through them, or had

them gone through by a secretary, marked the items he was interested in and bid for them at the sales. Besides the Browne catalogue, marked copies of the catalogues of the sales of the libraries of Sir Thomas Freeman, John Hillier, and Sir Thomas Sergeant from the year 1727 and of the collection of Italian drawings of Mr. Bernard Lens, Senr. from 1725, still exist in the library of the British Museum; from a much earlier period there are several catalogues from the noted bookseller Robert Scott (called by Roger North, "The greatest librarian in Europe"), and Sloane's copy of the catalogue of Richard Lapthorne, Esq., March 1727, is marked and a list of prices paid by him or for him is given at the beginning of the catalogue. Similarly it is sometimes possible to trace from the catalogue of Sloane's manuscripts, prepared partly by Humfrey Wanley, partly by Sloane himself or his secretaries, the sources from which they came.

Thus it notes that many volumes were bought at the Jekyll sale in January 1740, and the library of Nicholas Joseph Foucault, dispersed early in the eighteenth century, yielded at least eight manuscripts. Occasionally letters in the Sloane collection indicate the source from which material came. For instance James Cunningham, Physician to the East India Factory at Chusan in China, thus describes a consignment on 12 February, 1703:

"In the foresaid box there's for yourself a Chinese Common Prayer Book, which I procur'd from the Bonzas at Pu-to, the Lord's Prayer Belief and 10 Commandments translated into Chinese by the Jesuites, a description of Pu-to in Chinese, and a Draft of the River of Ning-po done by a French father who resides there."

Again in 1725, Benjamin Franklin wrote to Sloane offering him a purse made of the stone asbestos. "As you are noted", Franklin wrote, "to be a lover of curiosities, I have informed you of these; and if you have any inclination to purchase them, or see'em, let me know by a line directed for me at the Golden Fan in Little Britain". The asbestos purse is in the Department of Mineralogy in South Kensington.

Of the collections which came to Sloane, the following may be mentioned. In 1702, he inherited Courten's (or Charleton's) collections. Evelyn in his diary describes this collection in terms which might well be used of Sloane's. Under the date 16 Dec. 1686, he says "I carried the Countesse of Sunderland to see the rarities of Mr. Charleton in the Middle Temple, who

showed us such a collection as I have never seen in all my travels abroad, either of private gentlemen or princes. It consisted of miniatures, drawings, shells, insects, medals, natural things, animals (of which divers, I think 100, were kept in glasses of spirits of wine), minerals, precious stones, vessels, curiosities, in amber, cristall, achat, etc. all being very perfect and rare of their kind, especially his books of birds, fish, flowers and shells drawn and miniatur'd to the life. This gentleman's whole collection gather'd by himself travelling over most parts of Europe, is estimated at £8,000." So much for Charleton's collection. In 1710 and 1711 Sloane acquired the herbarium of Leonard Plunkenet, who had been superintendent of the gardens at Hampton Court and held the title, "Queen's Botanist", and Dr. John Herman's collection of plants from South Africa. The very rich Herbarium of James Petiver also came into Sloane's possession on Petiver's death in 1718. In 1716 the well-known botanist and traveller, Dr. Engelbert Kaempfer, died, and Sloane immediately set about acquiring his collections and in 1723-1725 all of them were transferred to Sir Hans's house in London. It is pretty certain that when Sloane received this collection, the Chinese colour prints which it included did not seem the most important part. Yet to the Department of Oriental Antiquities where they are now preserved, they are of unique importance because of their rarity and beautiful condition, and because of the early dates which can be assigned to them. Doubtless Kaempfer's botanist's eye would have been caught by the beautiful rendering of blossom in these woodcuts.

It is unfortunately not possible to identify, today, more than a small proportion of the antiquities which came to the Museum from Sloane. The register of his collection does not show which items actually reached the Museum, and often the only means of identification, apart from the very inadequate descriptions in his catalogue, is from the small paper labels with numbers in ink corresponding to those in the catalogue which Sloane attached to them. Among the Chinese and Japanese objects in the register are a number of pieces of pottery and porcelain which can be identified without any doubt. For example, they include a pair of Chinese unglazed biscuit figures described as: "A Chinese earthen ware figure of a woman sitting with a scroll in her hand, white and not glazed. From Mr. Van Mildert"; and "The same with a pott in her hand".

The Sloane collection also included Chinese soapstone carvings, and some fourteen specimens

in the Museum collection come from this source. But here identification is often difficult; as witness No. 184 in the catalogue: "a cup of gray soft stone or paste with trees cutt on the pedestal from China, a little broken on the edge bought of Mr. Penfold. 2/6." A male Chinese deity carved in wood, is somewhat inadequately described in the catalogue as "an old woman with a fan in her left hand tickling her ears cutt in wood".

Sloane's Egyptian antiquities were few in number and not important archaeologically, but even so his collection may have been in its time the only one of any size in this country. It was composed of about 150 pieces, the majority being small bronze, terracotta and stone figures of deities. It remained almost unaugmented in the Museum for nearly half-a-century, but it formed, when at the turn of the century Egyptological studies received a great stimulus as a result of Napoleon's campaign in the Nile Valley, the nucleus to which were added the sculptures which came to this country after the Battle of the Nile.

Sloane's collections similarly provided the basis for the subsequent growth of the Museum's ethnographical material. Had the nucleus derived from Sloane not existed, "it is open to doubt", to use the words of a former Keeper of Ethnography, "whether the Museum would have benefited from the ethnographical harvest accruing from the voyages of Captain Cook and others, which occurred within fifteen years of the Museum's establishment".

Of the 2,111 items listed in the "Miscellanies" section of Sloane's catalogue, about 350 are ethnographical, derived from sources covering the principal regions of the globe. Some of the specimens from Jamaica may well have been collected by Sloane himself during his residence in the island in 1687-89. Both the Kaempfer and the Petiver collections contained some ethnographica and an earlier source was William Courten or Charleton who has already been mentioned. Other items, according to the catalogue, were collected by others whose names are recorded.

Ethnographical objects which antedate the period of colonial expansion in the late 18th and early 19th centuries have special scientific value since they can be presumed to be genuinely indigenous and free from European influence. We are fortunate therefore in having from the Sloane collection a number of baskets, woven stuffs and wooden objects which were obtained from America early in the 18th century.

Unfortunately, the majority of the ethno-

graphical specimens listed in Sloane's catalogue are unidentified and many must be presumed to have perished, probably during the early years of the Museum's history. We are to some extent consoled by the thought that, as many of them were undocumented and unlocalized, they would probably not have added very greatly to our existing knowledge of primitive cultures.

The case is very different with the Sloane MSS. and printed books and prints and drawings, most of which are identifiable. Sloane's manuscripts numbered nearly 4,000 when they came to the Museum, and represented part of his working library. It contains much of his correspondence with English and foreign physicians, botanists, scientists, antiquaries and numismatists, medical books (which include the library of Francis Bernard, reputed the most extensive ever put together in England) and collections in botany and the other sciences, in travel and exploration. His wide interests give the collection a highly individual character. Its special position amongst the foundation collections is recognized by the title and serial numbers of subsequent accessions—the Additional Manuscripts, whose numeration begins at the point where the Sloane collection ends. Sloane was not apparently a great collector of paintings or drawings or sculpture: but he did own some important artistic treasures, chief among which was the album of drawings by Dürer, the possession of which puts the Museum among the greatest repositories of that artist's work—though it was doubtless for the pictures of animals rather than for its artistic worth that it was originally acquired by Sloane. He also had a series of designs for jewellery by Holbein. Apart from this, the pictures and busts which he owned presumably formed part of the furnishings in his house in Bloomsbury Place.

Sloane's printed books, of which the catalogue was identified with certainty only in 1941, are usually identifiable by reason of the number—probably an acquisition number—which Sloane wrote in them. As I have previously indicated, many of these were bought at the numerous sales which took place in the late 17th and 18th centuries and his collection contains a large number of catalogues of such sales. Sloane's name occurs but rarely in his books though occasionally the words *Bibliothecae Sloanianae* accompanied by a number are to be found. When it came to the British Museum in 1753, Sloane's library of printed books numbered some 40,000 or 50,000 and in Dr. Esdaile's words it "formed the groundwork and for half a century and more the bulk of the

Department's (i.e., the Department of Printed Books) collection". The Sloane "catalogue", identified in 1941 by Professor Jeremiah S. Finch, appears in fact to be an acquisition register in which the books are entered and numbered by size: the titles are given fairly fully and include place of imprint and date. As, however, the arrangement is haphazard, depending on the size of the book and the date of its entry into the library, the "catalogue" does not serve as a

finding list, though its discovery resulted in the certain identification of the Sloane numbers.

Sloane was a born collector, who started early and was still collecting when he died at the age of 92 in 1753. His collections could provide material for a whole series of studies and any attempt to deal with them in the confines of a brief address is bound to be inadequate: but at least, it may serve to adumbrate the value of Sloane's superb bequest to posterity.

The Bibliotheck

The Library Association and its sections and branches are responsible for a number of publications concerned primarily with professional conditions and standards and with the administrative and technical duties of librarians. Many, if not most of us are, however, under some pressure (be it from personal interest or desire for improved professional status) to be to some small extent scholars as well as administrators, cataloguers, classifiers, reference assistants, etc., and I hope in the next few paragraphs to draw your attention to the only publication sponsored by the Association that caters exclusively for this aspect of the librarian's interests.

The Bibliotheck, as this journal is called, after the old word for a library, is issued by the Scottish Group of the University and Research Section. It is, to quote the descriptive note that appears on the verso of its title-page, "a journal of bibliographical notes (as opposed to fully developed articles of the character suitable for inclusion in existing bibliographical journals). These notes will embody original material based on manuscripts or printed books of Scottish interest or association. Provisional check lists and other classes of work in progress will be included as well as queries of a type which do not require immediate answer. *The Bibliotheck* is the organ of the Group but its pages are open to librarians outside the Group and to all bibliographers and other research workers."

Past numbers have included bibliographies of the Scottish writers Lewis Grassie Gibbon, William Soutar and Hugh MacDiarmid, three articles on the records of Scottish medical and scientific societies, two notes on the issue of *The Border antiquities of England and Scotland* associated with the name of Sir Walter Scott, a bibliography of the writings of the great eighteenth century surgeon and collector, William Hunter, lists of medieval Scottish abbots taken from the Hunter Marshall Papers in Glasgow University Library, and a check-list of eighteenth

century Scottish editions and translations of the works of Montesquieu, Voltaire and Rousseau. It will be seen that our net is widely cast in the fields of bibliography, literature and archive studies, and that although all the subjects treated are of Scottish association, this does not mean that they are of solely Scottish interest. Notes on books and papers of Scottish origin or from Scottish collections which have found their way into unlikely repositories south of the Border—such as the unrecorded Edinburgh University theses of 1676 and 1680 discovered by R. J. Durling in the York Medical Society Library (see vol. 2, no. 2)—are especially relevant, and this is but one example of the kind of material that might easily come to the attention of any reader of this journal in the United Kingdom and on which we would welcome contributions. There is no need for such contributions to be exhaustive treatises on their subjects; we are more interested in printing the first than the last word on a given theme. Our only condition is that all our articles should embody genuine additions to knowledge. The pages of the journal, we have said, are open to all research workers, but it is published by librarians and we hope that the majority of its contributions will come from librarians. To all readers of the RECORD, I would appeal to keep a lookout for likely material, and if they find any, not to neglect their opportunity of making an original contribution to research.

The first number appeared in 1956 and the latest (the seventh) in August, 1960. Each number consists of 30-40 pages and two numbers are now issued every year. All numbers except the second, which is out of print, are obtainable (price 7s. 6d.); the annual subscription of 15s. is reduced to 12s. for members of library staffs purchasing personal copies. Contributions, subscriptions and other communications should be addressed to Robert Donaldson, The Editor, *The Bibliotheck*, The University Library, Glasgow, W.2.

ROBERT DONALDSON

SCIENCE LITERATURE IN LIBRARY EDUCATION

A study of American practice with suggestions for improving the Library Association requirements

Alan R. Thomas, F.L.A.

*Deputy Reference Librarian, Kensington Public Libraries**

IN this paper, details are given of science literature education for librarians in the United States, thereby throwing into relief certain limitations of the Library Association's requirements. Suggestions are made to revise the British system of professional education as regards science literature, although the main principles of the recommendations could be applied to our professional education in general, and to subject literature courses in particular.

Why does our system require revision? Firstly, the economy of our country is becoming increasingly dependent on her scientific and technical knowledge and skills. Industrial special libraries are increasing in number, size and scope, new technical colleges are founded, and public libraries are responsible for informing the public about vital issues (ranging from atomic warfare to open-cast coal mining). Yet, despite this increase in the number of posts for which a knowledge of science literature is desirable or essential, librarians so qualified are not forthcoming. Secondly, the present state of examination results is deplorable and requires investigation. The following facts speak for themselves.

During the whole of 1959, 946 candidates entered at Registration level for examination in the Literature of a Special Subject. Of these, 834 chose English Literature, 66 the Social Science paper, and only 46 the Science and Technology alternative. Moreover, of these 46 persons, 29 failed this examination, nobody reached Honours level, only 1 gained a Merit.

In the following study, it is hoped to expose some of the causes of this sorry situation.

The title of American basic science literature courses varied greatly from institution to institution, 14 schools beginning it with the words, "Literature of . . .", 10 schools with "Bibliography of . . .", and the remainder with an assortment of phrasing (such as "Library Materials in Science

and Technology", in the University of Washington). Only 12 schools included the word "Technology", although the omission of this word did not necessarily mean that applied sciences were not considered. The content of the courses also revealed much variation, as revealed by a study of library school bulletins. Some courses included only pure sciences, others some sections of technology. Certain descriptions made mention of such problems as selection, cataloguing and classification, and exploitation of materials. Each course has its own unique quality and approach; moreover, the same course will vary somewhat according to the lecturer conducting it. The clearest and most comprehensive course statement was found in the prospectus of Simmons College School of Library Science, totalling 72 words.

The common factor in the various courses is the study of important reference books in the natural sciences, though most schools provide a survey of major books and other materials, bibliographical tools, selection problems, and an approach to reference work in the field.

The "average" American course requires one term's work or a summer session to cover this content, and provides an introduction to library work in the subject of immediate and practical application.

In Britain, of course, the basic (Registration) science course has only one title and description, published in the *Library Association Year book* (1) and the *Students' handbook* (2). Slight differences in the interpretation are inevitable, but all British lecturers channel their efforts in one direction—to prepare their students to pass the standard examination of the Association. All the items found in American courses are dealt with in our courses, but it is clear from a perusal of past examination papers that a British course also crowds in much more, thus demanding a 9 months' course (15 by correspondence) for proper preparation. Even this very long preparation does not ensure success, as the examination

* Formerly Intern Librarian, Science and Industry Division of the Brooklyn Public Library; and student of Columbia University School of Library Service.

figures already given have shown—yet in the United States failure in a course is a comparative rarity. What sort of item is making our British course so long and so difficult?

In December 1956, 3 questions demanded some historical knowledge of science, including a "short account of the works of Aristotle . . .", and notes on the work and writings of Erasmus, Darwin, Hermann von Helmholtz, Linnaeus, Lyell, Lord Kelvin and Pasteur.

In the *A.A.L. Guide* (3), S. C. Goddard prescribes so much reading in so many areas of interest as to surely divert students to the English Literature paper. The *Guide* asserts that "the translation of Arabic versions of Greek books into Latin, and the direct translation from Greek into Latin, requires study". Other topics range from Aristarchus to Conrad Gesner. With this inclusion of the historical aspect, it is quite easy to understand Goddard's statement that "there are still far too many people working in technical and business libraries who are sitting for the English paper".

K. Mallaber (4) writes that this historical matter is "of almost no relevance to work in the vast majority of technical libraries", and asks "What duty is it of the Library Association to examine in subject knowledge?". In any case, as R. C. Bengé (5) points out, "an approach through the literature eventually leads to subject knowledge".

If the historical side is cut out, should anything be added? Bengé (5) stressed knowledge of relevant organizations, also special terminology and a map of knowledge of the subject and relationship of its parts, which is indeed often included in American course outlines sold to students. J. Bird (6) conducted a survey and found that periodicals of research level are neglected in our approach.

Our concern in this paper is with science literature courses in relation to general librarianship—indeed, one of the greatest lacks in our libraries, especially public libraries, is the absence of staff qualified to revise stocks and aid the public in Dewey classes 500 and 600. But there is also the question of training science librarians for special libraries and documentation centres, which in itself could range over many pages. Fortunately, it has already been well thought out by Taube (7) and Shera (8). Some detailed syllabi in science areas are set out in "Education for special librarianship" (9). Related issues are raised in "Issues in library education" (10).

We now move to the consideration of *more*

advanced courses in science bibliography. In the United States, only Columbia University offers an Advanced Science Literature course of one term, for which the basic course is pre-requisite. Ten schools offer courses in specific sciences or groups of related sciences, e.g., the literature of biology at the University of Illinois. A number of library schools indicate subject literature courses available in other departments of the college or university (e.g., chemical literature), such courses carrying points of credit towards the Master's degree in library science or service. Courses in related fields such as documentation are also available, notably at Western Reserve University.

While the L.A. provides final examinations in a wide range of scientific literatures, the opportunities for preparing for them are few. Only the North-Western Polytechnic boasts a definite programme of final courses, different special alternatives being scheduled in different years—thus a student could wait 5 years for his chosen subject to be arranged. No postal courses are available. A pass in the relevant Registration subject paper is not demanded of Final candidates. However, the gap in these further courses is partially filled by "extra-syllabus" courses. For instance, North-Western Polytechnic conducts short courses in neglected fields such as Agricultural Literature. The Manchester school provided tuition in Information Work, and the North-Western Polytechnic now prepares for the new Final paper in Presentation and Dissemination of Information (and did offer similar courses before the subject was in the L.A. syllabus). The work of Aslib deserves mention, for—unlike its American equivalent—it sponsors non-examination courses in special literatures and related techniques. These courses aim to give immediate help to trainees in special libraries, and have included Aeronautical Documentation, Patents and Patent Law, Textile Information, and a particularly interesting and unique course entitled "The Organization of Science and Technology". All these extra-curricular courses resemble the American post-basic courses in their brevity and concentration on a specific problem or zone of knowledge, in contrast to the rambling scope of the L.A. Final special alternatives which must be attempted with the paper in General Science Literature. Inevitably, only 2 librarians passed these final examinations in 1959, indicating the same defects as apply at Registration level.

The question of *pre-requisites* for science literature courses is also of interest. In America,

a course entitled "Bibliography"—actually more akin to what we call Assistance to Readers—is nearly always a required preliminary before enrolling for subject literature courses. Thus some attention has already been given to more general scientific publications before the detailed course is commenced. Only one school—the University of California—demanded actual subject qualifications in the form of "basic college courses in chemistry and physics". (Under the American system, as is well known, a Bachelor's degree is essential for entering library school, but the subjects of the degree are not required to relate to library school course for the Master's degree.) In Britain, Group D papers need no "subject" pre-requisites, and Group B can be taken before or after D, though it would seem wise to study exploitation and evaluation of books in general before selecting a special paper. However, many students prefer to tackle the one-paper Group D first rather than a 2-paper combination and, in view of the shortage of science literature students and librarians, should not be discouraged from so doing. In both countries it is clearly unrealistic to demand qualifications such as a college major in science (even for special librarians), though this is idealistically endorsed in "Education for special librarianship" (11). But it seems sensible enough to demand a pass in the special alternative at Registration level, before admitting a student to the appropriate Final paper.

A far more controversial issue is that of *examinations* and other demands of a course. It does appear that the final test at the end of an American subject literature course of, say, 12 weeks, is much less demanding than any L.A. external examination. It may last an hour, and is set and marked by the class instructor. He takes into account the student's performance throughout the term, and his results in a class quiz on the subject. Usually the student must also prepare a "term paper" during the term on a particular aspect, the nature of the paper being agreed with the instructor. The paper must bear a bibliography of references and gives the student the chance to do some original work on a topic which interests him, or which appears useful to him in his present job or future career. There are no external examinations. The type of final test, and the amount of credit (or points) allowed for each completed course, varies from library school to library school. For example, only Syracuse University specifically demands the compilation of a subject bibliography.

The British library school student has a tougher time than the American, who is almost certain

to pass his course. In Britain, an excellent library school student submitting excellent class work throughout the year may, and often does, fail the L.A. paper, in which he is an anonymous number. Moreover, he must carry in his head all the detailed facts and figures of the course until the examination day, resulting in anxiety and strain, cramming, failure and discouragement. Our library schools are certainly attempting too much, according to one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education (12), who also reported "an undue pre-occupation with examinations in librarianship". British librarians have tried to raise their status by making the examinations more and more difficult and unwieldy, but J. Brindle (13) warns that public esteem is not "governed by the time and effort expended in study", nor are the salaries of librarians.

It has been argued that the L.A. has the responsibility to ensure high and uniform standards, and that a mere imitation of American methods would only lead to the schools issuing their own diplomas of varying standards and contents, or else the establishment of cumbersome machinery to approve individual schools and courses. Surely, what is needed is a way to ensure that the detail of the courses is tested only by the school through regular assignments. At the close of the course, students who satisfied the school's demands would be admitted to a modified L.A. final test, evaluating grasp of principles and their application in library work—but *not* requiring feedback of facts and figures. The student's abilities would thus be fairly tested without strain, but the L.A.'s prerogative of control would be maintained. Liaison between lecturers and examiners would also be improved—at present, some lecturers are unconcerned at the failures of their students, interpreting them merely as proof of the liberal and progressive nature of their tuition or the stupidity of the examiners.

Another question concerns the *degree of election* for these courses. The basic science literature course is not compulsory in most American schools, since it can be avoided by studying a course in another subject literature (usually a choice is given of the sciences, social sciences, or humanities), or by attending a school where the study of a subject literature is not required for the granting of the M.L.S. degree. In this technical age, it is surprising to discover that the course is compulsory only at the following schools: Universities of Denver, Chicago, Oklahoma; Marywood College, and Western Michigan College of Education; and Indiana University

(in this latter case the course covers both Science and Social Science).

In Britain, the paper may be avoided—and usually is—by taking English Literature or the Literature of the Social Sciences.

In the United States, there appears to be greater availability of the courses. In most library schools the basic course is listed in the current prospectus, and is offered each year and often each term, classes being held during the day or at night. A large number of Americans (in New York, most Americans) qualify for their general degree (Bachelor's) and their library degree (Master's) as evening or part-time day students. The under-mentioned schools either do not list the course at present, or else offer it irregularly at varying intervals: Immaculate Heart College, Florida State University, Emory University, University of Kentucky, Marywood College, Louisiana State University, Western Michigan College of Education, and the University of Wisconsin. Any interested non-degree students may register for the courses.

In Britain, the lamentable dearth of Final courses has already been noted. At Registration level, the North-Western Polytechnic and the Manchester school regularly offer the course, and the City of Birmingham school claims to have "special tuition for the Literature of Science and Technology". The other full-time schools offer the course irregularly, or "allow" students to study for it on their own. Part-time classes are rarely held for science literature courses.

The Association of Assistant Librarians has a correspondence course always available lasting for 15 months, and the many unsuccessful candidates are able to avail themselves of a special revision course.

A revision of our system would increase the demand for courses in the literature of science and technology, but until such times it would be wise for one or two major schools to offer the courses regularly and thus be able to afford excellent teachers, adequate library facilities, and a long-term programme for alternatives under continuous revision. Location in a city with many industrial libraries would have an obvious advantage. The present collapse of courses due to insufficient students would come to an end, as would postal courses which in the past served as a very useful stop-gap. Publicity for courses should be more intensive—at present the *Students' handbook* does not list individual courses, neither do all of the school bulletins.

The last, and perhaps most important, problem concerns the *purpose* of the course. Very few

clear statements as to the aim of courses are to be found in American school publications. In many schools the course forms part of an integrated programme of studies designed to produce science librarians for special libraries. A description of these programmes is given by George Bonn (14). Only one school—that of Columbia University—indicated that its course was for "non-science students". In Britain, also, no official statement of purpose is to be found. Aslib has been represented on syllabus revision committees and has influenced the course of events, and now seems no longer anxious to issue its own certificates. The Institute of Information Scientists now issues its own qualifications. The pressure of these two bodies may help to define a purpose, at least for special librarianship. But little attention has been given to ascertaining how effective the D (b) syllabus courses and examination are in producing effective public, school and college librarians to give science literature service from a broad non-specialist collection. Certainly we need education in science literature for the "general" librarian, as distinct from a specialist qualification.

The syllabus revision committees and the new paper in Information work (16) show some progress, but the L.A. is still pre-occupied with English Literature and lags behind the times and the needs—present and potential—of the British public. It must make clear which purposes the present syllabus is trying to achieve—there is too much correspondence and confusion about this.

Short special courses run by Aslib and the schools will always be useful to supplement adequate provision of full professional courses, but must never again represent a desperate attempt by special libraries to fill a gap in syllabus provision.

A summary of the main recommendations made now follows.

The Registration syllabus "for the Literature of Science and Technology" to exclude historical and other unnecessary details. The revised syllabus would aim to provide a very brief introduction to these matters:

"The scope of the main sciences and technologies and their inter-relations, types of scientific organizations and their functions, scientific method and research, methods of publication and the use by scientists of libraries and information. Chief problems in the librarianship of the field arising from service to various kinds of readers in different types of libraries (including cataloguing and classification, selection and exploitation of materials). Essential reference

stock and major circulating books in the main pure and applied sciences."

This syllabus would serve students intending to practise in a general library, as well as those aiming at specialist science librarianship. The latter category would be able to take further and more intensive Final courses, catering for subject specialists in one or more related fields. The present general science paper forming the first half of the Final to be omitted, as it duplicates largely Registration level.

The library school course covering this Registration level to be of 3 or 4 months' duration, and a term paper would be required. Successful course students would take a one-hour L.A. external test in basic principles. Names of students and examiners need not be concealed. Publicized courses would be regularly offered at selected schools. Pre-requisites in a subject or in other librarianship courses would not be demanded, but Final students should have passed their relevant Group D paper.

The L.A. should increase liaison with employers who would then require passes in specialist papers for appropriate posts. Nancy Nicholson (17) draws attention to the laxness prevailing among committees.

The above steps would increase enrolment in science literature courses so there would be no need to make the course compulsory in this country.

In conclusion, it is recommended that the best features of American methods (18) be adopted as our own. (It is interesting to note that the University College School of Librarianship—which has not been considered in detail as it is an exception in British library education—combines features of American schools with the detailed long courses of British schools. Two courses relating to science literature were recently introduced.) If the suggestions made in this paper were explored and adopted, most British librarians of the future would be exposed to at least a short science literature course, most would pass the tests, public and college library service would be improved, and the shortage of staff in industrial libraries would cease.

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- (10) Council of National Library Associations. "Issues in library education", edited by Harold Lancour, 1949. (A report on the Conference on Library education held at Princeton University, December 11-12, 1948, especially pp. 41-54.)
- (11) As (9) p. 10 (under "Undergraduate education").
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- (14) Bonn, George S. "Training for activity in scientific documentation work". (In papers presented at the International Conference on Scientific Information, Washington, 1958.)
- (15) *Aslib Proceedings*, Vol. 10, no. 3, March 1958, p. 77.
- (16) *Aslib Proceedings*, Vol. 10, no. 8, August 1958, p. 206.
- (17) Nicholson, Nancy M. "Correspondence." (In *Assistant Librarian*, Vol. 52, no. 4, April 1959, p. 72.)
- (18) Thomas, Alan R. "Impressions of American librarianship". (In *Library World*, Vol. 61, no. 720, June 1960, pp. 255-258.)

L.A./N.Y.L.A. Exchange Scheme

There is an opportunity under the above scheme for a Chartered Librarian in the London and Home Counties area with experience of either adult lending libraries or children's library work to spend a year on exchange with a Branch Librarian of New York Public Library. The duties of the British librarian during the exchange will be either in adult lending library work or preferably in children's library work and the salary will be at the rate of \$5,090 p.a. Four weeks' annual leave with pay. Salaries will be exchanged for the period of the exchange and British applicants' salaries should be not less than £850 p.a. Further particulars may be obtained from the Deputy Secretary.

SINTO AND HULTIS

Annual Reports of Two Co-operative Schemes

SINTO

(Sheffield Interchange Organization)

The Annual General Meeting of SINTO was held at the Sheffield Central Library on the 14th July, 1960, and a full agenda was matched by a large attendance. The Annual Review of Progress, reporting an ever-increasing use of SINTO'S reserves, was enthusiastically approved.

During the year one member firm resigned as they no longer possessed an adequate library, but two more applications for membership brought the total number of libraries within SINTO to 50. A 13 per cent increase in the number of items exchanged reflects the healthy state of industrial information in the Sheffield Region, but it takes no account of the information freely exchanged on steel specifications, industrial processes and the many physical and chemical problems which constantly arise and are solved within SINTO.

Last year's projected venture of a Training Course for Special Librarians successfully materialized and thirteen junior staff from special libraries within SINTO attended the basic course, held under the auspices of the Department of Commerce and Management of the Sheffield College of Technology. It is not anticipated that there will be enough students for such a course to be run every year, but the precedent having been set, and tutors found, it will be possible to repeat the class at need.

The main project of the year has been the compilation of an Index of Steel Specifications. It is now approaching 10,000 entries which give composition, properties, uses and origin, and is still not by any means comprehensive. Constant efforts have been made to secure the national steel specifications for Europe and North America together with those from individual steel firms. This is to be pursued on a systematic basis until the Index is as complete as possible.

The Executive Committee paid particular attention to cover-to-cover translations of Russian scientific and technical periodicals, their aim being to make SINTO'S holdings as complete

as possible and at the same time to avoid duplication of subscriptions. This action is typical of the way in which such an organization can co-operate to ensure comprehensiveness without waste.

The monthly Accessions List issued by the Department of Commerce, Science and Technology changed format and arrangement within the year, to a more manageable quarto in full classification order. It is used by SINTO members in two ways—as a check on their own purchases, and as an indication of what they can borrow. Its appearance every month is the signal for a flood of requests for loans. In its new form it is more acceptable as a working tool.

The Index of Translations has been expanded, and supplementing this an agreement has been reached with The British Iron and Steel Institute for the loan of their translations to SINTO members as required. The International Labour Office's Safety, Health and Welfare Abstracts are yet another addition to the source material available to SINTO.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the year has been the steady growth in size and effectiveness of the special libraries which make up the bulk of SINTO membership. This has brought added strength to SINTO as a whole, and there is every reason to believe that this trend will continue.

Finally, Telex has begun to play an effective part in communication within SINTO. The Post Office telephones in the Department of Commerce, Science and Technology (and staff to answer them!) are frequently insufficient to carry the weight of industrial enquiries, and more use now is being increasingly made of Telex as an additional and speedy form of communication which has the advantage of the clarity of the printed word. It has been used also to secure information from libraries all over the country for member libraries of SINTO.

The year under review was typical of SINTO'S progress, steady and unspectacular but immensely rewarding.

L. G. TOOTELL

HULTIS

(Hull Technical Interloan Scheme)

Loans between the members of the Scheme for the Interloan of Technical Publications trebled during the past 5 years. This development in the Hull Library's Service to industry was reported at the 7th Annual Meeting held at the Central Library on 11th November, 1960.

The Chief Librarian and Secretary to the Scheme, Mr. R. F. Drewery, presided in the absence of the Chairman of the Libraries Committee, Alderman L. Science. Twenty-nine representatives of firms, institutions, the College of Technology and Hull University attended.

To promote the greatest use of local library resources, the Hull Technical Interloan Scheme was inaugurated in 1953 with its headquarters in the Commercial and Technical Library. This scheme of mutual assistance is now well established and the libraries of 33 institutions and firms, together with the libraries of Hull University and the College of Technology, undertake to lend their specialized material to each other with certain reservations and safeguards. Union catalogues of periodicals and books held by the member libraries are maintained in the Commercial and Technical Library to facilitate speedy interloan. The union catalogue of periodicals has now been issued as a checklist and the 2nd edition, 1960 (B60-16476) contains over 1,350 scientific and technical titles.

Arising out of the minutes of the 6th Annual Meeting, it was announced that the Libraries Committee had decided, owing to pressure of business, to subscribe to the Post Office Telex Service immediately, instead of waiting for the completion of the extension to the Central Library in 1961. Hull's Telex number is 52211, the answer back code name is "Reference, Hull" and the service is now expected to be in operation this month. A visit to the new University Library was arranged for members to take place in December, 1960. This was in accordance with the plan to visit members' libraries in turn. Details of the merger of two member firms were announced and the new member, the representative of the Hull and District Branch of the Institute of Office Management, was formally introduced.

The Annual Report and Statistics of the work of the Scheme during 1959-60 were received. The value of the service given by the Commercial and Technical Library to their firms was verbally reported by several members.

A short explanation of the development of the National Lending Library for Science and Technology and the services offered was given by

the Technical Librarian. The representatives appreciated the value of the efforts currently made by D.S.I.R. and asked for a summary of the talk to be entered in the minutes for their information.

The Chairman then briefly described the manner in which other similar interloan organizations administered by public libraries were referred to, instancing SINTO, LADSIRLAC, CICRIS and TALIC. It was noticeable that Hull was seldom included when such schemes were mentioned in the professional press. This was felt to be largely due to the length of the present name and the lack of a "catch" title. The members welcomed the suggestion of the need for a short title and agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the officials to consider suggestions and make a decision. (HULTIS was finally decided upon.)

The question of the provision of cover-to-cover translations of Russian periodicals was introduced with a brief outline of the work of the Lending Library Unit and the efforts towards co-operation in this field already made in Yorkshire. Existing local holdings by Blackburn Group Hull University and the Commercial and Technical Library were described and members agreed to consider subscribing to suitable translations in their own fields.

At the conclusion of the meeting, members were able to examine specimen copies of several cover-to-cover translations which had been obtained for their guidance. A display of new books and periodicals was provided and photographs, in colour and monochrome, of Hull's contribution to the L.A. Conference Exhibition in Scarborough Public Library were also shown. The latter was particularly interesting to members as several had assisted with the loan of photographs and other material.

N. E. SMITH

CIRCLE OF STATE LIBRARIANS

Officers and representatives of the Circle of State Librarians for 1961 have been elected as follows:

Chairman: F. C. Hirst, F.L.A. (Ministry of Agriculture); *Senior Joint Secretary:* R. Davidge, B.A., A.L.A. (Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew); *Junior Joint Secretary:* Miss B. A. Kent, A.L.A. (India Office); *Treasurer:* R. C. Wright, A.L.A. (Royal Aircraft Establishment); *Membership Officer:* N. J. Day, A.L.A. (Tropical Products Institute).

Committee: Senior Grade Representatives: R. G. C. Desmond (Ministry of Agriculture), A. H. Holloway (Admiralty Centre for Scientific Information and Liaison), D. W. King (War Office), B. C. Lack (Meteorological Office).

Junior Grade Representatives: Miss M. J. Fowler (Lending Library Unit, D.S.I.R.), R. H. Griffiths (Patent Office), Miss D. M. Jepson (War Office), N. J. Tilly (Central Office of Information).

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Subscriptions for 1961

Members are asked to note that their 1961 subscriptions became due on 1st January, and to send their remittances as early as possible to the Secretary, together with the remittance form which was posted to members last month.

The remittance form has been simplified so that members need not give their positions or addresses unless these have changed.

Members are requested to remit their subscriptions at the appropriate rate and to complete the declaration on their remittance form if the subscription due is less than £5 5s. This will save the inconvenience and expense of future adjustments and correspondence.

Section Membership, 1961

Members are reminded that membership of Sections of the Association is not automatically continuous from year to year. In order to remain in membership of a Section or Sections, it is necessary to inform the Secretary of the Association (except in the case of Life Members and those who pay their subscription by Bank Order). Members may join, or remain in membership of, any two Sections without additional payment. To do so, they should complete the appropriate part of the remittance form accompanying the subscription reminder which was sent to them at the end of last month. Members may also join more than two Sections by paying, in addition to the normal subscription, a further annual sum of five shillings for each Section joined after the first two. Prompt payment of subscriptions accompanied by the remittance form, clearly stating members' desires regarding Section membership for 1961, will facilitate considerably accurate Section membership recording and avoid loss of Section voting rights.

In the case of Life Members and those who pay by Bank Order, existing membership of Sections will be continued unless the Secretary is notified otherwise before 30th January, 1961.

Register of Chartered Librarians

At the November, 1960, Council meeting, 2 Fellows and 27 Associates were elected to the Register as follows:

Fellows: Briggs, D. J. (Mrs.), B.A., and Craig, A. E. (Miss).

Associates: Bain, J. (Miss); Beldowski, L., B.A.; Bennett, N. E. (Miss), B.A.; Cornelius, H. F., B.A.;

Crocker, G. M. (Mrs.), B.A.; Doig, U. H. R. (Miss); Dunstan, S. (Miss); Elliott, J. R.; Faraday, R. A. B. (Miss), M.A.; Hamor, M. E. (Miss); Heissig, H. N.; Hellard, A. M. (Miss); Hughes, P. A. (Mrs.); Hughes, P. E. (Miss); Kelly, S. M. (Miss), B.A.; Kennedy, C. L. (Miss), B.A.; Liverseed, M.A. (Miss); Medlock, B. M. (Miss); Merriman, S. E. (Mrs.); Nairn, A. (Miss), M.A.; Perry, P.; Robinson, E. A. (Mrs.), B.A.; Rogers, D. V. (Mrs.); Sanders, B. M. (Miss); Sanderson, J. (Miss); Stoddart, D. M. (Miss), B.A.; Winsor, A. J. (Miss) B.A.

At the same meeting of the Council one Associate was re-instated on the Register as follows:

Smith, R. A.

Nine Fellows and 68 Associates were removed from the register through resignation, default or decease as follows:

Fellows: Anderson, A. J. (Miss); Barker, J. R.; Davison, R.; Hodson, E. K. (Miss); Longmuir, G. W.; Reeves, C. G. (Miss); Sayers, W. C. B.; Smith, G.; Banerjee, B. N.

Associates: Ames, J. E.; Baker, K. (Mrs.); Berry, M. D.; Chilton, E. M. A. (Mrs.); Clark, D. G. F. L.; Clarke, C. D. (Mrs.); Clayton, R. L.; Collins, M. R. (Miss); Crawford, P. A. (Miss); Crocker, M. M. (Miss); Crocker, P. A. (Miss); Davies, B. J. (Mrs.); Dillon, E. G. (Mrs.); Dunlop, I. G. (Miss); Ellis, D.; Fairweather, D. (Miss); Gale, J. D. (Miss); Galt, W.; Grounds, F. H.; Hodson, J. H.; Horne, L. B.; Howard, R. A.; Jackson, R.; Kigongo-Lwanga, E. T. M. S.; Lever, J. R. A. (Mrs.); Mann, M. A. (Miss); Marston, R. G. (Mrs.); Milne, S. (Mrs.); Moores, E. F. (Mrs.); Moorhouse, E. (Miss); Nicholls, J. I. (Miss); O'Shea, M. A. (Mrs.); Patrick, I. M. (Mrs.); Patrick, S. A. (Miss); Reeve, J. (Mrs.); Rickwood, J. (Miss); Rock, C. H.; Rowe, G. A. (Mrs.); Seemark, D. (Miss); Snackman, S. I. (Miss); Suddaby, K. M. (Miss); Sykes, J. M. (Miss); Thwaite, L. P.; Waring, D. S. (Mrs.); Wells, E. A.; Winn, V. A. (Miss); Young, B.; Ames, K. J.; Annesley, G.; Becker, M. M. (Mrs.); Brown, J. J.; Deas, G. I.; Dunn, L. J.; Gadishaw, V. C. (Miss); Giffin, H. M. S. (Miss); Gleam, M. E. (Mrs.); Gregory, W. H. (Miss); Holmes, J. A. (Mrs.); Kemp, E. E. (Miss); McIncherson, J. F.; Ndegwa, J.; Prevatt, A. J. (Mrs.); Rose, L. E.; Saunders, C. S.; Simpson, C. S.; Simpson, J. H. (Miss); Tait, J. I. (Mrs.); Vercourt, L. D. (Mrs.); Young, P. V. (Mrs.).

Teacher-Librarian Certificate

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION AND SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

JOINT BOARD OF ASSESSORS

1. The examination for the Certificate for Teacher-Librarians will be held on 15th and 16th June, 1961. Forms of application to sit the examination are now available from the Secretary to the Joint Board, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1.

2. Organizers of courses may send for application forms in bulk, stating the number required. Each request for a form or forms should be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope.

3. The closing date for applications is 28th February, 1961, after which no applications can be considered.

4. Two stamped self-addressed envelopes (postcard size) must accompany each completed entry form returned to the Secretary, for the despatch of the candidate's entry ticket and result card (Examination Regulation 4). Failure to comply with this Regulation will delay both entry ticket and notification of result.

5. Cheques, money or postal orders should be made out to The Library Association.

Revision of Syllabus

Administration of new examinations

If the proposals for revision of the Syllabus now lying on the table are confirmed, the following will be the initial regulations relating to marking, awarding of passes, passes by compensation, and references:

(i) in each Paper 10 questions will be set, of which 5 must be answered, each to be marked out of 20 marks (total 100 marks per Paper);

(ii) in each Paper 50 marks shall give a Pass, 70 marks Merit, and 85 marks Honours;

(iii) to pass, a candidate must pass in each of the 5 Papers or pass in 4 Papers with a total of 275 marks in the 5 Papers, or pass in 3 Papers with a total of 300 marks in the 5 Papers;

(iv) a candidate who passes in 4 Papers but gains less than the aggregate of 275 marks required for a Pass in the Examination shall be Referred to his studies in the fifth Paper; if on re-taking the Paper in which he was Referred he fails, the whole examination must be taken again.

Five-day Week in Public Libraries

With the adoption of a five-day week by an increasing number of local authorities, and the impossibility of applying it to their library staffs on the basis of every Saturday off duty, the Council have recently considered the whole position with special reference to the desirability of compensation being made to library staffs. They had before them a summary of information supplied by chief librarians, of both libraries in authorities which have adopted the five-day week and those in authorities which have not yet done so. At their meeting in November, the Council decided that some form of compensation should be made to library staff working in authorities where the five-day week has been adopted with Saturday as the free-day and where this cannot be applied to library staff. They were also of the opinion that the form the compensation should take is a matter for local determination. A letter has already been sent to chief librarians

recommending that authorities should be requested to make compensation with due regard to the wishes of the staff themselves as to what form the compensation should take. The Council also endorsed the decision of the A.A.L. Council to send a suitable memorandum to their library representatives incorporating the suggestion that staff in similar circumstances in other departments should be invited to co-operate in approaching Nalco branches to negotiate compensation locally in accordance with the staff's agreed wishes. Nalco's N.E.C. have been asked to support this and to inform their District Committees and Branches accordingly. Finally, the Council decided to publish the summary of information received from chief librarians for the information of all members.

Summary of Information Received from Public Libraries

A. No. of local authorities which have ADOPTED a five-day week 178

1. No. of their libraries operating a five-day week. 92

	Number of Libraries	Satisfactory to staff	
		Yes	No
(a) <i>Saturday rotas operated.</i>			
Off every Saturday	1	1	—
Off 1 in 2	8	8	—
Off 1 in 3	10	8	1
Off 1 in 4	14	11	3
Off 1 in 5	2	2	—
Off 1 in 6	7	2	4
Off 1 in 8	2	1	—
Unspecified	48	42	5

(b) *Compensation received for Saturday duty.*

(i) Annual leave as for 6-day week	13	13	—
(ii) Financial	1	1	—

(c) *Compensation desired by dissatisfied staffs.*

(i) Financial	4		
(ii) More Saturdays off	5		
(iii) Shorter working hours	1		

2. No. of their libraries NOT operating a five-day week 86

(a) *Summary of Time-sheets (where supplied).*

Alternate Saturdays off	2	2	—
2 half-days each week	10	7	3
Alternate 4½ and 5½ day weeks	2	2	—
4½ day week	8	7	1
Alternate 5 and 5½ day weeks	3	2	1
Alternate 4½ and 5 day weeks	3	3	—
No change	36	17	18

(b) Compensation received for not having a five-day week.

(i) 37½ hour week	1	1	—
(ii) 1 Saturday off in 3 (4 hours)	1	1	—
(iii) Extra ½ day (4 hours) on alternate weeks	1	1	—
(iv) Earlier closing on Saturday with improved Saturday rota	4	4	—
(v) Alternate 5 day week and two ½ day week with 6 day week leave entitlement	1	1	—
(vi) 2 extra increments (Juniors)	1	1	—
(vii) Additional staff appointed to allow alternate Saturday ½ days	1	—	1
(c) Compensation desired by staff			
(i) Financial	25		
(ii) Additional annual leave	2		
(iii) Five-day week with Saturday rota	8		
(iv) More Saturdays off	6		
(v) Earlier closing on Saturdays	1		

B. No. of local authorities which have NOT YET adopted a five-day week (including a number which have partially adopted it) 212

1. No. of their libraries operating a five-day week	
(a) because the service closes a whole day each week	3
(b) to suit staff	18
2. No. of their libraries operating a "near five-day week" and whose staff prefer it to a five-day week	19
3. No. of their libraries whose staff do not want a five-day week	15
4. Compensation received by staff where a five-day week cannot be applied to them:	
	Number of Libraries
(i) Financial	3
(ii) Three days extra annual leave	1
(iii) One Saturday off in 3 (4 hours)	1
(iv) Extra ½ day each month	1
5. Compensation desired by library staff	
(i) Financial	38
(ii) Alternative time off	34
(iii) Additional leave	7
(iv) More Saturdays off	9
(v) Earlier Saturday closing	9
(vi) Weekend leave (Saturday and Monday) rota	4
(vii) Earlier closing every day	2
(viii) Don't know	11
(ix) Still under consideration	6
(x) Not yet considered	9
(xi) No answer	33

Reference Libraries

Bibliographies

First place must be given to a welcome for the long-awaited *General catalogue of printed books* of the British Museum; the first eight volumes were published in October (DF-ENGLAND), and publication is expected to continue at the rate of eight volumes every two months until Z is reached in 1967, when the earlier part (A-DEZ) will be published. Those librarians who hesitated when the cost was estimated in 1957 as £8 a volume (at least £2,400 altogether), may be encouraged to think again now that the promised support of 500 subscribers has enabled it to be reduced to £6 10s. a volume (less than £2,000 altogether, or about £312 a year).

This work contains no entries for books catalogued after 1955, and in the Reading Room of the Museum later entries now appear on cards; although no definite announcement has yet been made, I understand that it may be possible to print annual volumes of accessions, perhaps with five or ten-year cumulations. The accession lists that were at one time on sale are no longer available.

This seems an appropriate place to apologize for an error that I was responsible for introducing into Walford's *Guide to reference material*. The entry for the British Museum *General catalogue* . . . says that 77 per cent of the Museum's books do not appear in the *Catalogue of the Library of Congress*; this was based on the incomplete figures available in 1957, but now that the detailed comparison between these two great catalogues has been published (*Journal of documentation*, March 1959, p. 38), it can be seen that the figure should have been 58 per cent.

The Bibliothèque Nationale had a similar problem to the British Museum in completing its catalogue; although it had advanced much further in the alphabet (vol. 185, Texon-Theuret), the early volumes date from 1897. This problem is being met by continuing to the end of the alphabet, but with no entries after 1959, and quinquennial supplements starting with one to cover books catalogued between 1960 and 1964. This will be done Congress style by offset-litho from cards; it will include anonymous works and joint authors, which were not listed in the original catalogues.

Most public and learned libraries will have received a questionnaire asking for details of their holdings for a "location register of biographical manuscripts"; when it is completed (possibly during 1961), it will be deposited at the

National Register of Archives, and should be at least a partial answer to those appeals appearing regularly in *TLS* and elsewhere. Incidentally, the National Book League keeps an index of these and other letters to the press that reveal forthcoming biographies.

A much vaster project has been under way at the Library of Congress for the last two years, in the compilation of a "national union catalog of manuscript collections"; this will record, according to a code of cataloguing rules, some 27,000 collections on printed cards that will be sold by LC in the same way as their ordinary catalogue cards, and may later be published in book form.

American librarians have always felt that they lacked a true current national bibliography; the *CBI* excludes most non-trade publications and includes a great deal of material written in English and published outside the U.S., the *Catalog of copyright entries* includes 20 per cent of foreign publications, and the *LC National union catalog* is truly international. An attempt has been made to provide a real librarian's tool in the *American book publishing record*, annoyingly abbreviated as *BPR*; this is a monthly cumulation of entries from *Publishers' weekly*, with LC author entries and subject headings, and Dewey numbers. Although the annotations (taken from *Publishers' weekly*) are not critical, they make *BPR* a very useful selection tool, and the speed with which it is produced will enable British librarians to order books within a few weeks of publication. At present it has two faults: American librarians report that some of its LC headings are inaccurate (although few librarians in this country would be using them), and it has no plans for cumulations or indexes. Published by Bowker at \$11 a year, it is not available through their usual London agents (Whitaker), who handle only their books. Bowker's *Books in print* and *Subject guide to books in print* are being taken by an increasing number of British libraries, and the publishers are planning a South American *Books in print* and a Latin American periodical index, which would fill two serious gaps in bibliographical coverage.

An article in *Canadian library*, May 1960 (Milestones in Canadian bibliography, by Jean Lunn) summarizes in four pages the various bibliographies of Canadiana from 1837 to the *Bibliography of Canadian bibliography* just published by the University of Toronto Press. Reprints of the article may be obtained free from the Information Division of the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa (Reprint no. 252).

Although it is far from a bibliography, I cannot resist slipping in a note on the new edition of *The author's & writer's who's who*; the publishers sent out a correction slip for William Suddaby's entry, but do not seem to have noticed the fictitious entry for Tissington-Henriot-Brown (alphabetized under "Brown"). I am indebted to Mr. O. G. W. Stallybrass of the London Library for showing me this.

Two catalogues of privately-printed books deserve mention. A few months ago Manchester Public Libraries published the second (and final) part of the *Subject catalogue. Section 094: Private pressbooks* (21s. each part); this lists about 750 items under their presses, giving a full description of each, with indexes of authors, illustrators and binders. It is the only current retrospective catalogue in the field, although limited to one library's holdings; to supplement it we now have *Private press books, 1959* (Private Libraries Association, 41 Cuckoo Hill Road, Pinner, Middlesex, 7s. 6d.). This is intended to be an annual catalogue of books produced by private presses, mostly in Britain and America, with the usual details including prices and a *BNB*-style number (not, I hasten to add, a class number, but a running number after the style 59-24). This bibliography is compiled by a librarian (Roderick Cave, University College of the West Indies) and a private press owner (Thomas Rae, of the Signet Press); there is an index of authors and titles, which it is hoped to cumulate 5-yearly, and a bibliography of recent books and articles on private presses. The 1960 volume will be published in April at 10s. 6d.

Periodicals

The *Internationale Bibliographie der Zeitschriftenliteratur (IBZ)* is to many students merely a title to be learnt for exams, and I fear that many librarians regard it as of no practical value to them, yet this marvellous work indexes over 6,000 current periodicals, well over 4,000 of them being non-German, including a number of English titles not covered elsewhere. Comparable figures: the *L.A. Subject index to periodicals* covers 317 titles, costs 8 guineas to members; the *Readers' guide* covers a little over 100, costs £7 17s. 6d.; *IBZ Abteilung B* (the non-German part) costs £30 19s. 3d. My excuse for mentioning *IBZ* is the appearance of a reprint (New York, Kraus Reprint Corporation) of the various sections, at prices between \$18 and \$35 a volume; this will cover all volumes from the beginning to 1943 or 1944, the later volumes being available in the original edition.

All volumes of Poole's *Index to periodical*

literature are now in print (Gloucester, Mass., Peter Smith).

A new effort that deserves support from British librarians is *An index to book reviews in the humanities* (quarterly, 1960—, \$8 p.a., from Phillip Thomson, P.O. Box 606, Detroit 6, Michigan). This indexes about 230 periodicals, including among the English titles *T.L.S.*, *Economist*, *Encounter*, *English historical review*, *Library Association record*, *Listener*, and *Studio*.

A brief note for the many librarians wanting to keep an eye on new periodicals: from January 1960, *BNB* has brought together in its cumulated indexes a list of new and changed titles under the heading "Periodicals"; unfortunately, we still lack a list of ceased titles.

A survey of "Periodical literature in Canada" was published in *Canadian library* in May 1960, and is available as Reprint no. 254, as above.

A final item for which the only excuse is that it appeals to my warped sense of humour by reason of the incongruity of its title: long-term prisoners in Port Laoighe Prison are indexing the *Freeman's journal*; this gives me an opportunity to mention that this Dublin paper (1763-1924) is now available from University Microfilms (but presumably without the index).

Societies

In May 1959, I mentioned the need for more adequate directories, and I have on my desk a handful of out-of-the-way examples. The first comes from an unexpected source, a manufacturer of judo clothing: *List of judo clubs, hours of practice and general information*, revised two or three times a year, and free from Joseph Milom, 48 Plymouth Grove, Manchester 13. This is a stencilled list, as is *Some export groups, trade associations etc., in the United Kingdom* (free from Board of Trade, Export Services Branch, Lacon House, Theobalds Road, W.C.1), published regularly with occasional amendments; in spite of its apparently limited scope, it covers a very wide range, and can identify bodies concerned with such things as parking meters, cigarette lighters, cement mixers, greetings cards, photo albums, carbon paper, railway points, petrol pumps and golf balls.

Similar bodies in the United States are among those covered by "Membership directories of American scientific and engineering societies", an article in *Special libraries*, January 1957, pp. 12-18. This is a list that indicates availability (including notes of those issued in periodicals), frequency, and size; it excludes medical societies.

For similar coverage in this country we have to turn to Henderson's *Current British directories*, although with its commercial bias it does not include all the professional bodies; the inclusiveness of the membership of some of the medical auxiliaries may be judged by a long feature in *The Spectator* of 28th October, describing the professional organizations on the fringe of medicine (osteopaths, homœopaths, and so on).

In view of the obvious widespread interest, it is surprising that we have not had before a detailed directory of railway societies; at Wimbledon we have been reduced to noting addresses from the small advertisements and news notes in the *Railway magazine*, and inserting them in our card index of societies (which contains many odd organizations gleaned from such sources as the personal column of *The Times*); we now have *The railway enthusiast's guide* (Ronald, 10s.), a rather misleading title, since it is primarily an annotated directory of societies national and local, museums, periodicals, etc., in some 50 countries.

Two international lists deserve mention. Mr. R. Hoy (School of Oriental and African Studies) draws attention to one published in 1955: *International guide to study centres on civilizations and their publications* (Brussels, International Institute of Differing Civilizations, [London, E.S. Tew, 91 Lyndhurst Gardens, N.3, 11s.]). This includes such bodies as the Hakluyt Society, Africa Bureau, Royal Asiatic Society, and Institut Français d'Afrique Noire, and gives most useful lists of publications and addresses of local branches.

The Parliamentary Group for World Government (the address is simply House of Commons, S.W.1) has produced, at 1s. 6d., *Education for international understanding: a reference guide to activities in the United Kingdom*; this describes societies, publications, visual aids, and activities related to the United Nations, the Commonwealth, Council of Europe, Western European Union, NATO, U.S.A. and U.S.S.R., and includes some 145 organizations.

Where is Jodrell Bank?

My account of a search for the location of Jodrell Bank Experimental Station (*RECORD*, June, 1960) has provoked some interesting letters, not least one from Mrs. G. Braine (Hendon), who points out that the address is given in a book we had checked: *The world of learning*; in our omnipotence we had looked under Manchester University, never expecting the

Station to be indexed under "Jodrell Bank". Mr. Alan E. Jeffreys (Birmingham University) found yet another address for Professor Lovell in the *Year book* of the Royal Society, and this turns out to be the correct one according to letters received from the P.R.O. of Jodrell Bank. Perhaps I should clarify the original enquiry by saying that we were looking for two things: the full postal address (which we did not find, but which the P.R.O. tells me is Lower Withington, Macclesfield, Cheshire), and an address that would enable us to locate the Station on a map (which Professor Lovell's private address provided). Since I wrote in June, the name has been changed to the Nuffield Radio Astronomy Laboratories.

Great Soviet Encyclopaedia

Volume 50 of the *Bol'shaya sovetskaya entsiklopediya* (2nd edition) was devoted to a survey of the U.S.S.R., and is naturally an important source of official information in spite of being three years old. A translation of this volume is being published by Pergamon Press at "approximately" £10.

An interesting article by William Benton (of *Encyclopaedia Britannica*) appeared in *Yale review*, September 1958, pp. 552-568; it gives much detail on the *Great Soviet encyclopaedia*, and of course compares it with *Britannica*.

CHARLES A. TOASE

British Education Index

Copies of the *British education index* are expected to be available from the Secretary of the L.A. next month. This is the first volume of a subject index to education articles in British periodicals, few of which are covered by the Wilson Education Index. Some fifty periodicals are covered and near-completeness has been achieved by the inclusion of relevant articles from other, non-educational, periodicals. All educational subjects are included—universities, adult education, schooling of all kinds and at all levels, psychology, juvenile delinquency. Equal attention has been given to countries outside Great Britain and the Commonwealth. There is an author index.

This is the first printed cumulation of the Index to Selected British Educational Periodicals (compiled by the Librarians of English Institutes of Education) and it covers the four-year period, August 1954 to November 1958. The intention is to issue further cumulations at regular intervals.

The price of the *Index* will be £2 12s. (\$8 U.S.A.), post 1s. (To members of the L.A., 39s. (\$6 U.S.A.), post 1s.

The *Index* will be supplied automatically to those libraries who have placed a standing order for "all L.A. publications".

Municipal Library Notes

Five hundred years before the birth of Christ, Confucius said, "Only the very wisest and the very stupidest never change". Perhaps within this aphorism can be found the reason why the Minister of Education has recently announced that he does not propose to introduce legislation at present to implement some of the findings of the Roberts Committee and that he will await the recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission—"Interesting but tough" as Mark Twain once said. It can only be assumed that the Rt. Hon. Sir David Eccles has not had the pleasure of reading through the batch of recently published annual reports from municipal libraries, for few of these fail to devote a paragraph or so to the Roberts Report and although, as always, the views expressed range from the portentous to the prosaic, the consensus of opinion is strongly in favour of the recommendations. Now presumably we must wait for the Commission's report and then hope will rise again.

In London, they have ordered things differently. The Royal Commission's report on the future government of London* is remarkably well written. The background is clearly filled in and the evidence is dealt with directly and occasionally ruthlessly. The Commission's views on the public library service are principally dealt with in one paragraph, which concludes, "From what we have seen of the library service in the metropolitan boroughs and elsewhere we are convinced that this is a service which the Boroughs can undertake most successfully. We recommend that they should do so and that the excellent arrangements which they have for co-operation and interchange of books should continue."—but their other recommendations, if adopted, would substantially alter the pattern and number of local authorities and change the relationship between existing municipal and county authorities. To the outsider the public library service of London is a source of astonishment, to the librarians of London it must be a source of pride, for indeed it is amazing that it works at all—astonishing that it works so well.

From the smallest to the largest municipal authority there appears to be increasing difficulty in staffing public libraries. In London and the provinces, at junior and at intermediate levels, the story is the same. A turnover of over ten per cent must surely throw a considerable burden both on senior staff and new recruits as well as

* Report of Royal Commission on Local Government in Greater London 1957-60. Command No. 1164. £1 8s.

taxing the administrative efficiency of any library. WILLEDEN's annual report is always well written and nicely printed. The latest report includes a section on the problems of staffing which is worth quoting in full:

"It has again been a very difficult year for staffing. No fewer than 17 out of a total establishment of 51 left the service during the year, and new recruits of the desired quality to replace them were extremely difficult to secure. Under these circumstances it has been quite impossible to maintain at all times the high standard of service we consider to be essential if the libraries are to play their full part in the life of the community.

The opportunity was therefore taken at the Special Review of Staff which was carried out in the latter half of 1959 to make a bold effort to remove some of the causes which discourage recruitment to the library service, and the following measures were approved:

- (a) Upgrading of all the senior posts to improve the long-term prospects of those who wish to make librarianship a career;
- (b) Additional grade increments to new entrants with two or more "A" Level GCE Certificates;
- (c) An increase of the establishment from 51 to 58, so that better time-sheets and more effective in-service training arrangements can be provided for staff;
- (d) The adoption of a new principle of dividing junior staff into professional and non-professional categories; the former will consist of those with the requisite GCE qualifications to enable them to take the examinations of the Library Association, whilst for the latter no GCE qualifications will be required. The new establishment provides that of the 30 General Division staff 15 are to be in the non-professional category. This important change will therefore widen the field of recruitment, and since some of the work of a library is inevitably of a routine nature which does not require a high degree of professional skill, it is felt that this can be done without any lowering of the standards required to operate the service efficiently."

Dr. Urquhart's paper to the recent Library Association Conference made it clear that he is a man of vision and determination. The National Lending Library of Science is a project which will ensure him a place in library annals as an outstanding administrator. It is certainly to be hoped that Dr. Urquhart will be influenced by the discussion that followed his paper and ensure that the reserves of skill and bibliographical material that exist in municipal libraries are fully used to supplement his proposed service.

The need for this co-operation is underlined by the development of regional technical information services. These services are established by the D.S.I.R. and financed by them from "Conditional Aid" Funds, subject to costs being shared with industry. The Minister of Education stated in the House of Commons on 8th November, 1960, that "the possibility of establishing centres in addition to the existing centres at Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Manchester and

Newcastle is under active consideration". It is surprising to learn that all these centres are already in existence. The Regional Councils that were set up as a preliminary to the establishment of these centres usually consist of representatives of industry and technical education in the area, and grants from the Government are normally conditional on an increasing proportion of the cost being met by the region; this inevitably causes some difficulty in ensuring the financial future of the project. An important point about these proposals is that, generally speaking, it was not thought necessary or desirable to ensure that the many public library authorities as such were represented on these Councils nor was their advice sought on the project. Arising from this, the following points might usefully be made: that however ineffective the technical library service of the public libraries may be considered to be, it is quite often the best and frequently the only service there is; there are considerable resources of knowledge and information available in these libraries for the guidance of the Minister, the D.S.I.R. and the Regional Information Centres if they care to use them, and, finally, these Centres are likely to be severely handicapped if they are established in any competitive or partisan spirit. There is certainly room for improved technical information services, and librarians will no doubt be happy to make any contribution they can in this field.

RUGBY has a well-established reputation as a library authority that gives a service to industry. They have recently issued an eighteen-page booklet listing technical books added to the library in the first few months of this year. Quite an impressive list and it might give any other agencies contemplating the establishment of such a service a rather sharp jolt, because there is little doubt that this is a service which is as expensive to maintain as it is useful to give. The point is reinforced in a note appearing in the Spring issue of *The Manchester Review*, headed "Technical translating dictionaries", which concludes:

"The demand to break down these language barriers becomes more acute all the time with the result that translation work has to be undertaken on an unprecedented scale. The stock of interlingual dictionaries in the Technical Library has accordingly been systematically reviewed and added to over the past three years, particularly in the Scandinavian, Eastern European, Russian and Asiatic languages, until well over 400 translating dictionaries are now available. About half the dictionaries cover general scientific and technical subjects, but the rest are devoted to specific topics such as agriculture, medicine, shipping, plastics and the like."

E. A. CLOUGH

County Library Notes

Welcome to *High tide* a lively, well-written, journal from LINDSEY & HOLLAND; another one to add to the growing number of readable county staff journals and information sheets. Another newcomer in October in this field was the information sheet from the NORTH RIDING, although this was simpler, giving brief details of staff changes, new branches, and instructions on changing methods. HERTFORDSHIRE's *Information* No. 14, as usual is interesting to the outsider for its news of building development, and of an extension to County Hall which will mean a new County Library Headquarters, thought likely to be ready for occupation in three years' time.

New buildings are described in heartening detail in most reports, although that from DENBIGHSHIRE is enough to make one shudder, with its account of the redecoration of the headquarters, for the first time since the building's occupation in the 1920's; prior to then it functioned as the County gaol! One suspects that in the matter of buildings the writer's intention was to make the reader shudder. It is to be hoped it had the required effect. In spite of the gloomy outlook, one learns that the Llangollen Public Library has joined the County and is to have a modern branch library.

In the report from DURHAM several pages of photographs of new branch library buildings are preceded by one of a model of the new County Hall, with a new County Library Headquarters in a separate block. At an estimated cost of £234,000 for the building alone this, too, like Durham's branch buildings, is to be financed from revenue. The programme for providing part-time branches in rented rooms for populations exceeding 2,000 is said to be almost completed, and the mobile library programme is continuing. As in previous reports from this county, considerable space is given to an analysis of the staff, their qualifications, and "staying" power; the ability to field a cricket team is a new approach to this old problem! The comments on the stock include references to variations in the methods of cataloguing and stock preparation in order to speed the processing of the greatly increased numbers of new books, and on the work done by the home bindery department. Loans to overseas libraries totalled 29, including two to Asian libraries and the point is made that the Headquarters Requests Department deals, each day, with a higher total of requested titles than does the Northern Regional Library Bureau which serves all the libraries in the North-

east. A brief mention that preliminary steps have been taken towards the co-ordination of the purchase and interlending of medical books and periodicals by the various hospitals in the area indicates that Durham may have something else of interest to tell in a little while.

SOMERSET is another county which describes the provision of books in some detail, and mentions the formation of a new stock department to handle all book purchase and request problems. New branches have been opened, and others are in the planning stages; the old subscription library at Street has become a county branch library, and there were two additional mobile libraries put on the road. The schools service moved into a new building, and the service itself continued its planned expansion into a further 45 schools. The only difficulty in an otherwise satisfyingly rewarding year was the major one of staffing an expanding service.

The WEST RIDING's comment on the staffing situation is to the effect that the hope of higher salaries, following re-grading, acting as a stabilizer is a forlorn one. The rest of the report is likely to be of interest mainly to the local readers for whom, no doubt, it was intended; but as staff time is scarce, would it not have helped the reference service if the source of the quotations had been given?

MIDDLESEX as usual produces the kind of report from which other librarians extract quotations. Attractively unostentatious, it must be one of the cheapest reports produced by any county, but this in no way lessens the effect of the comments on library work in Middlesex. Two other cheap, but pleasing, publications come from LINDSEY and HOLLAND and both by their existence illustrate the widening horizons of the library service. One, entitled *Reference and information books for primary schools* will be a useful checklist for other librarians outside the counties concerned, and the second, *The education of the sub-normal child*, contains a useful list of fiction suitable for the backward reader.

OLGA S. NEWMAN

Library Equipment Notes

Planax Binding Equipment

Planax Binding Equipment is not entirely new to librarians but as it has been used in the Association Library for a variety of purposes, some notes on it may be of interest.

Essentially it consists of a pasting table, a tin of special adhesive, a brush and strips of gauze.



Single or folded sheets and stapled or sewn leaflets can be bound together. The secret lies in the qualities of the adhesive known as Planatol and it is undoubtedly a very strong glue.

The papers or leaflets to be bound are trimmed to size (if required) and clamped on the pasting table. This is swivelled into position so that the spine of the volume is presented for pasting. A strip of gauze is pressed on top and further pasted. The clamp is removed from the table and left to dry, when it is almost impossible to pull out single sheets or leaflets in a straight pull although, of course, they can be peeled off if necessary.

The adhesive can be obtained in various grades for binding, joining sets of forms to be later separated and for making notepads, etc. It is available in black, white and five colours.

The finished volumes open flat at any page making photocopying easy. A number of thin volumes can be made up together and separated afterwards by a sharp knife.

Provided that care is taken to align all the sheets or leaflets to be bound, a strong and neat volume results.

There are three main sizes of pasting table: one at £54; one at £48 taking sheets up to 20 in., and a Junior binder set at £24 10s. for foolscap sized papers which includes a tin of adhesive, a brush and a roll of gauze. Adhesive is 18s. a tin. Additional equipment includes an infra-red dryer and a jogger to produce an even edge to the papers.

Uses in the Library include binding of pamphlets (particularly those not folded in sections), annual reports, lesser-used periodicals, single articles extracted from periodicals, etc.

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CORRESPONDENCE

REVISION OF SYLLABUS

MR. L. WHITE, F.L.A., *Librarian of Wallasey*, writes:

In fashioning a new syllabus and in the selection of letters in the RECORD examining it, no one has attempted to link the new pre-entry qualifications and the higher standard of examinations with the rewards to be expected by the qualified librarian. Any attempt to do this invariably brings the reply that the standard of pre-entry education and post-entry training must be fixed with a view to producing the best librarian and has no connection with the rewards for the job. As far as local authority librarianship is concerned at least, it seems quite fantastic to believe that the rewards offered at present will bring forward candidates with the necessary pre-entry attainment; or, that present grades will encourage staff to become qualified by full-time training. Indications are that the grant system for non-university courses may be improved in future; even so, it seems unrealistic to frame an examination structure of a high standard without regard to the level of remuneration, if only because few school leavers or university graduates will enter the profession under these conditions. Virtually everyone is now agreed that the quality of recruit is lower than pre-war; that it is difficult to obtain candidates with five "O" level passes; that even where applications are received from boys of a good standard, the chief librarian's conscience will not let him recruit to a profession in which prospects of a reasonable future are so poor. Nothing in the attempts which have been made, or which are being made, to revise the grading of librarians gives one any hope for an improvement; yet, at this very time, we are engaged in an attempt to raise the standard of pre-entry and post-entry qualification.

Could not some attempt have been made to make the Final Examination the qualifying examination for a Chartered Librarian, as in all other professional bodies, and bring the level of the Registration Examination more in relation to the reward offered for passing it? As far as local government is concerned, our Registration Examination is an Intermediate Examination and no one is regarded as chartered or qualified on passing that, yet few of our candidates go on to the Final Examination.

All of us would, of course, like to see two A level and graduate entry combined with full-time training for librarianship; but looked at realistically, if the gap between the high level of qualification (the new Chartered Librarian) and the low level of reward (A.P.T. I), is made even wider as suggested, the present precarious link between position and qualifications will break down and graded posts will be filled, as they are being filled at present, by the unqualified; or perhaps even worse, not filled at all.

Unless the grading of local authority librarians can be brought more in line with the grading of local authority solicitors, accountants, engineers, architects, teachers, etc., the library service will become a social service run for the unlettered by the unqualified. And the proposed "new look" will accelerate this trend, not halt it. One thing is certain, whatever the L.A. may do about raising qualifications, and whatever the local authority may do about keeping down the salaries, the libraries will stay open and the library committee and the local council will continue to be reasonably, if ignorantly, happy.

MR. B. I. BROWN, *Assistant, Islington Public Libraries*, writes:

As a member of the Library Association, I wish to place on record the strongest objection to the following proposals for revision of the Examination Syllabus, as reported by Miss Paulin in the July issue of the RECORD:

1. That pre-entry qualification be raised to four G.C.E. passes of which two should be at Advanced Level.
2. That the First Professional Examination be abolished.
3. That the Registration Examination be taken at one sitting.

The objection to the first proposal must have been obvious to the Syllabus Sub-Committee, since Miss Paulin states that "it would be wrong to raise the pre-entry requirements to a point where recruitment was demonstrably insufficient to meet current, let alone foreseeable demands". Do they not know that current demand is *already* greater than the supply available, and that many authorities *already* are forced to accept recruits with even fewer than five passes at Ordinary level?

Furthermore, the present pre-entry qualification is higher than that asked for in other Local Government departments. Efforts to raise status in this way will bring no lasting result until rewards are commensurate with those offered in commerce, the Civil Service, and the teaching profession.

The second proposal is to be regretted on the grounds that the First Professional Examination can serve as a basis for the later examinations and also assists the non-professionals in their day-to-day work.

The effect of the third proposal will be to virtually eliminate part-time study as a means of qualifying. This is amply demonstrated by the number of failures even when the various groups may be taken separately as at present. The number of members able to take a three-year, part-time course, and then pass in each of four, three-hour papers will be minute.

The assumption that full-time study is necessarily preferable is questionable. Many prospective entrants will find it impossible to attend a full-time course due to personal circumstances, inadequate grants, or mere geographic location; whilst in favour of properly organized part-time study is the fact that it does turn out a practical librarian, who is able to relate theory to fact, whose training is developed under actual working conditions and whose initiative is increased in the process.

Finally, on the question of making librarianship a "graduate profession", this is a matter of such importance that it should be put to the whole membership by means of a referendum before being considered by a sub-committee.

MR. PHILLIPS

DR. S. R. RANGANATHAN, M.A., L.T., F.L.A., writes:

The note of Mr. Phillips in the October 1960 issue (p. 339) makes me ask for the hospitality of your columns. I usually read with care any opinion expressed on my work. If it is essentially intellectual and objective, I try to understand it and benefit by it, if it is correct and new. But if it is essentially charged with emotion and without any contribution to thought, I ignore it. In either case, I do not take part in controversy. But, if a fact cited is wrong, I point it out. In the statement of Mr. Phillips that "Ranganathan did privately ask me to sponsor the *Elements*. I did agree but not for the reason given by Mr. Crossley", his memory is at fault. I have verified from my notes what took place at the meeting in Leeds in 1956.

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At the end of my talk, a crowd surrounded me. A young librarian asked for my autograph in his copy of the *Elements*, saying that it was that book that made him stay on in his profession. Some students complained that copies of the book were not available and suggested my bringing out a new edition. Somebody asked if I would allow it to be reprinted in England. I said that I would not like the idea as it might prejudice the sale of the *Primer* of Mr. Phillips. At this stage Mr. Phillips, whom I had seen only twice in 1948 and whom I could not recognize in the crowd, stepped in with the remarks cited by Crossley, viz., that his own book was then dead. I asked him to, make sure and said that I would agree to allow it to be published in England only if he had really no objection. It was at this stage that Mr. Phillips publicly came forward himself with the offer to sponsor the publication by A.A.L. and said that it was easy to do so as he was a member of the Publications Committee. Later, he added that he would like to have my consent in writing to take it up with the A.A.L. Thus it is not a case either of my asking or of my asking privately.

Much is being made of not having revised the *Elements* at the galley proof stage, after the 16th edition of DC came out. I had access to this edition at the end of 1958 in U.S.A. I immediately checked up all the DC numbers in the *Elements*. Ten of them had been omitted in the 16th edition. But these sharper numbers of the 14th edition were better suited to comparative study. The term "minor writers" had been omitted in the 16th edition. But a reference to its use in the earlier editions had to be retained to illustrate the Canon of Reticence and the dictum of Sayers that a term in a classification schedule should not be critical. Only three of the DC numbers cited in the *Elements* had their last digits changed in the 16th edition. These changes were too trivial to affect anything. As I was then moving from country to country and there was every possibility of the pages concerned having been already struck, I did not think it worthwhile to communicate these three trivial changes to the editor. There is thus no substance of fact in the complaint re the 16th edition. It is a false cloud of dust.

The passage in the statement of Mr. Phillips about "Ranganathan's claim that the *BNB* was 'more Colon than DC'", is either a distortion, or his own way of absorbing some other statement. In the course of the lecture, I merely mentioned that the *BNB* applied chain procedure, feature headings, and facet analysis devised during the development of CC, and that it was the first large-scale application of these techniques.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN GREATER LONDON

MR. J. G. O'LEARY, F.S.A., F.L.A., *Librarian of Dagenham*, writes:

Mr. McColvin, on the McColvin Report, says in November issue of *Liaison*: "I naturally turned to my own Survey scheme of 1942. I would then have had 20 library authorities instead of this 52". He fails to point out that the McColvin Report (a tendentious document) recommended that libraries should be placed under regional boards and removed from the care of local authorities. Nobody took any notice of this except the L.A. Council. Nobody took any notice of that either. The Report of the Royal Commission does exactly the opposite and hands library powers to all the proposed greater London borough councils; many for the first time. What the Borough of Wembley will do with the foundations provided by the Middlesex County Libraries, in order to provide a library service comparable with its neighbour, Hendon, I don't know. But Mr. McColvin visited Wembley and thought very highly of it. He did not visit Hendon.

As far as this part of Greater London is concerned, nothing could be more welcome than the implementation of the report of the Royal Commission. At this moment there is no reference library between Chelmsford and Dagenham or between Thurrock and Dagenham. We can but hope that the other Local Government Boundary Commission will make a similar recommendation.

NATIONAL FICTION RESERVE

MR. JON ELLIOTT, A.L.A., *Borough Librarian and Curator, Rawtenstall*, writes:

The setting up of national and regional bibliographic collections can be a very expensive business with difficulties that even large finances may not ultimately surmount.

The professional librarian, in considering such a project, attempts to seek the most efficient and economic scheme which will require the minimum future adjustment and give the fullest service for the money required and expended. This attitude is particularly necessary in considering large storage problems, where the expense of housing comparatively rarely used stock is often difficult to justify in the light of more objective work.

A National Fiction Reserve (NFR) presents such a problem plus the opportunity to compile a Local Authors List (LAL) in order to effect storage economy and produce a literary topography. This List could be drawn up before any

A-Z author allocation was made to member libraries.

It is suggested that the Library Association, or allied committee, would circulate all libraries requesting particulars of all novelists whose works are permanently filed in their local collections. The entries would indicate whether the author is held because he, either lived in the area (L) or, wrote about it (W); or both. Replies would be typed on catalogue cards, two per author, and might contain additional information about the author and his works, not required at the time but useful information for researchers or for any future annotation of the List.

From such entries received, an alphabetical list of local authors would be drawn up with cross references for pseudonyms, etc., e.g.,

Irwell, Joseph *pseud.* see Spall, Edward J. (1901-)
 Smith, William (1840-1902) Rawtenstall (LW)
 Spall, Edward J. (1901-) Bacup (L)
 Webb, Thelma (1862-1926) Darwen (L), Whalley (W)

The second phase of this Local Authors List would be the classified topographical list based on Dewey's 941-942.9, e.g., 942.72 Lancashire.

Bacup Spall, Edward J. (1901-) (L)
 Darwen Webb, Thelma (1862-1926) (L)
 Rawtenstall Smith, William (1840-1902) (LW)
 Rossendale see under Bacup, Rawtenstall.
 Whalley Webb, Thelma (1862-1926) (W)

Incidentally, Commonwealth libraries might undertake their own scheme, indicating where the author did not write in English.

All libraries would receive a copy of this Local Authors List, and, on receipt of their A-Z allocation in the NRF, would exclude authors in LAL. Similarly, libraries intending to add new authors to their permanent local collections would inform the libraries allocated the sequence including these authors. Libraries holding only those authors' novels relevant to their local collections would be requested to acquire the other novels of such authors. Furthermore, those libraries who hitherto had no local author collections, would investigate the possibilities of previous omissions.

Thus the storage space saved by the establishment of LAL, particularly if a central repository is envisaged, would be considerable and such necessary storage would be further reduced if unclaimed W.R.M.s are left to the British Museum and any future individual reproduction which might arise.

Some will oppose this scheme because two lists will be necessary, LAL and NFR.

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The arguments in support of LAL are:

1. The storage space saved and spread might obviate the need for a large independent repository.
2. The cost of its compilation, shared between all libraries and produced by the Library Association, would be comparatively negligible.
3. If both LAL and NFR are in the same loose leaf binder, there should be little loss of time in checking: requests per library, per month, would be very small at any time.
4. Many old authors, which NFR would probably not include, will be brought to light and libraries seeking such authors to complete their collections would be more likely to do so, since there must be many old withdrawn novels, and donated ones put to salvage on receipt, which could complete some other libraries' local author collections.
5. A book housed in a library's Local Collection is readily available to the select readers who are most likely to request it; and its continued preservation enhanced by avoiding the packaging and posting from and to a central repository. Furthermore, the amount of usage of such a book in a Local Collection would not warrant duplication either by another library merely by virtue of its A-Z allocation, or by a special repository. In any case, if the book had enjoyed contemporary popularity, the specializing library would have held a number of copies.
6. No library with out-of-print novels in its Local collection is likely to forward them to other libraries which contain these authors in their NFR allocation.
7. Its value to the literary and social history student is obvious.

Some may wish to amend or expand this outline for a NFR Local Authors List; perhaps publishers and those champions of a future comprehensive national publishing house may also make constructive suggestions. No doubt others with open minds on the subject, will wish no part of it; but I would much rather it received the blessing of Chaucer House than the National Book League or the British Council.

STUDENT LIBRARIAN

MISS K. R. WEDDERSPOON, *School of Librarianship, Loughborough College of Further Education*, writes:

We should be very grateful if you would allow us to use your columns to draw attention of members of the Association to the publication of a new journal, *Student librarian*. The first number is to be issued in March 1961 by the students of the Loughborough School of Librarianship and it is our hope that this pioneering venture will be well supported by all who are interested in librarianship. Although we hope that it may from time to time include news of past students, we propose that the main part of the journal should be devoted to articles of a professional nature.

It is proposed that, to begin with at least, it should appear annually and the price has been set at 3s. 6d. a copy (2s. 6d. to present and past students). This charge is necessary because it is intended to print the journal and not to have a duplicated journal as formerly. Any items of news which past students feel should appear in the journal, or suggestions for possible papers for publication or enquiries for subscriptions, or more importantly the subscriptions themselves, should be sent to the Editor, The Student Librarian, School of Librarianship, College of Further Education, Loughborough.

SALARY AWARD

MR. R. A. BANGS, F.L.A., *Deputy Librarian of Hove*, writes:

So the Employers' side of the Gradients Sub-Committee have rejected our claim for a Special Award. Negotiations have been going on far too long—and long before the Roberts Report, with its emphatic aide-mémoire concerning salaries was presented to Parliament in February 1959. What more could the L.A. and Nalco require to clinch our case? But now—a full stop. Why?

Once more I feel strongly that Nalco are still not convinced—and have not been convinced—of the urgency of our case. Yet it is a very good case indeed. It is certainly again up to all members of the L.A. and of Nalco to make known in most emphatic terms their dissatisfaction. Something must be done, and done quickly, for the good of the profession.

One matter is immediately affected by this deplorable hiatus in negotiations. How can the remodelled examination syllabus be put into operation without any immediate improvement

in career prospects? How can we expect that students and entrants with two advanced G.C.E.'s will for one moment consider librarianship as a career, without an improvement on the present career prospects?

The new syllabus will have to be deferred until the employers see reason.

LIBRARIANSHIP—ONE WORLD

MR. BRIAN SELBY, F.L.A., *Branch Librarian, Berkshire County Library*, writes:

I would like to write in the strongest commendation of Mr. Martin's Prize Essay (RECORD, October 1960). This is the most positive statement of a purpose for librarianship that I have read since I joined the profession in 1953. It is too much to expect that Mr. Martin's essay will receive the unanimous support of the profession, but his words should inject some urgency into the essential, but sadly neglected discussion of professional purpose. I hope that all librarians who think, as I do, that Mr. Martin's essay and the Unesco Manifesto are statements of a more desirable purpose for librarianship than the pious documents of reaction and complacency which constitute the majority of public library annual reports, will press for meetings to discuss, using Mr. Martin's essay as a starting point, in every branch and section of the L.A., the problems of putting idealism into action which are implied in that essay.

SUBJECT BOOKLISTS RECENTLY ISSUED BY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

- Books on Wales at the Breconshire County Libraries 28 p. Breconshire Co.
- The Old Testament: a reading list for the aid of teachers, 11 p. Breconshire Co.
- You and your health: a select list of books on medicine, nursing and related topics. 13 p. Burnley P.L.
- A select list of books on musical instruments. 4 p. Carlisle P.L.
- The Land (Class 630). 11 p. Chelmsford P.L.
- Christian religion . . . 3 p. Gillingham P.L.
- Success with your camera with books. Islington P.L.
- Dutch art: Hull Reference Library Review. R.88, Kingston-upon-Hull P.L.
- Education: some recent books. 8 p. Newcastle P.L.
- Hire purchase: a reading list . . . 3 p. Newcastle P.L.
- Nixon or Kennedy? . . . 5 p. Surrey Co.
- The mind of your child. 6 p. Tottenham P.L.

L.A. RECORD TITLE-PAGE AND INDEX

Copies of the RECORD Title-page and Index for 1960 will be available shortly on request from the Secretary of the L.A.

L.A. Library Additions

JUNE TO SEPTEMBER, 1960
[2nd List continued]

- JAFFAR, S. M. Library science: book classification schemes, Pakistani system: progressive plan. Important library instruments . . . Peshawar City [West Pakistan], Sadigsons, 1959. Various paging. 025.4
- MILLS, J. A modern outline of library classification. London. Chapman & Hall, 1960. viii, 196 p. 025.4
- UNITED STATES. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. PROCESSING DEPARTMENT. SUBJECT CATALOGING DIVISION. Classification: class L, education; 3rd ed. (with supplementary pages) Washington, 1951 (reprinted 1960). xi, 200, 43 p. 025.4
- Classification: class U, military science, 3rd ed. (with supplementary pages). Washington, 1952 (reprinted 1960). v, 86, 15 p. 025.4
- INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY. APPLIED CHEMISTRY SECTION. PLASTICS AND HIGH POLYMERS DIVISION. Classifications of high polymers: a review. London, Butterworths Scientific Publications, 1960. vi, 54 p. 025.4654784
- INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BUILDING RESEARCH STUDIES AND DOCUMENTATION (C.I.B.) and INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR DOCUMENTATION (F.I.D.) INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE. Recent developments in building classifications: International classification committee reports to C.I.B. congress, Rotterdam; F.I.D. conference, Warsaw. Rotterdam, 1959. Various paging. 025.4669
- COATES, E. J. The British Catalogue of music classification. London, The Council of the British National Bibliography Ltd. 1960. xii, 56 p. 025.4678
- COLLISON, R. L. W. Library assistance to readers. [3rd ed., rev. and enl.]. London, Crosby Lockwood, 1960. vii, 130 p. 025.5
- HANSON, C. W. Time taken by special libraries to get material bound . . . London, Aslib, 1960. 6 p. 025.7
- PLUMBE, W. J. . . . Preservation of library materials in tropical countries. Illinois, University of Illinois Library School, 1959, 125-9, 291-306 p. Reprinted from *Library Trends*, October, 1959. 025.84
- UNITED STATES. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS. Preservation of documents by lamination. Washington D.C., 1959. iii, 20 p. (National Bureau of Standards Monograph 5). 025.84
- NEW ZEALAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. UNIVERSITY AND RESEARCH SECTION. Special libraries and collections: a New Zealand directory, 1959 . . . Wellington, 1959. ii, 34 p. 026
- CURTIS, W. E. Technical and scientific information in the manufacturing industries of the North East: report of an inquiry. [Newcastle upon-Tyne?]. North East Industrial Development Association, 1956. 57 p. 026.6
- HERTFORDSHIRE. COUNTY COUNCIL. Technical Information Service: press reports. [Hertford, 1960?]. [4 p.]. 026.6
- BOALCH, D. H., editor. World directory of agricultural libraries and documentation centres . . . Harpenden [Herts.], International Association of Agricultural Librarians and Documentalists, 1960. 280 p. 026.63
- TRAINAR, B. The Canadian Fisher Institute: the cataloguing and classification of its library and information service . . . Ottawa, Canadian Library Association, 1960. i, 52 p. (Occasional papers, No. 28). 026.79143

All the Best for the New Year!



- Das wissenschaftliche bibliothekswesen der deutschen demokratischen republik in siebenjahrplan. (Perspektivplan 1959 bis 1965). [Leipzig], Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen, 1959. 16 p. 027.043
- PACIFIC NORTHWEST LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. Library development project reports . . . Seattle, University of Washington Press . . . Vol. I: The public libraries of the Pacific Northwest, 1960. 027.04795
- [PEKING. UNIVERSITY. DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY SCIENCE]. COMMITTEE FOR THE COMPILATION OF THE HISTORY OF THE LIBRARY SERVICE. The library service of our country during the last ten years. In *Union research service*; v. 19, no. 8, 10: 26th April, 3rd May, 1960. Hong Kong, Hui Shun Chi, 1960. Reprinted by the service from *Peking University Journal*, no. 4. 1959. 027.051
- FRAENKEL, J., editor. Guide to the Jewish libraries of the world . . . London, Cultural Department of the World Jewish Congress, c1959. 64 p. 027.05693
- KAUFMAN, P. The eighteenth-century forerunner of the London Library . . . [New York], Bibliographical Society of America, 1960. 89-100 p. 027.3421
- AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. COMMITTEE. Library service for rural people. [Washington], U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare . . . 1959. 20 p. (Farmers' Bulletin, No. 2142). 027.42
- MORGAN, P. Wigan's Library, Bewdley . . . [Worcester?] *Transactions of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society*, 1959. 61-36 p. 027.4247
- [MORACHEVSKY, N. Guide to the state public library. Leningrad, State Public Library? 1956.] 82 p. Title page and text in Russian. 027.44745
- UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION. National libraries: their problems and prospects. Symposium on National libraries in Europe, Vienna, 8th-27th September, 1958. Paris, c1960. 125 p. 027.5
- SWITZERLAND. BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE SUISSE. Guide du lecteur, [Berne, 1953-1959]. 32 p. 027.5494
- VAINSTEIN, R. The role of the public library in education for the aging. [Chicago] *Adult Leadership*, 1960. 5 p. 027.6
- AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. Public Library Association, Committee on standards for work with young adults in public libraries. Young adult services in the public library . . . [Chicago], 1960. [3], 50 p. 027.626

- PRAGUE. UNIVERSITNÍ. KNIHOVNY, *editor*. Knihovna: vědecko-teoretický sborník 1959: Mezinárodní konference a vysokoškolském knihovnickém vzdělání v Praze, 25-27. III. 1958. Referáty, diskuse a doporučení. Praha, Státní pedagogické Nakladatelství, 1959. 335 p. 027.7
- UPPSALA. UNIVERSITETSBIBLIOTEK. Uppsala University Library: historical notes, guide to the exhibits. Uppsala, 1955. 17 p. 027.7487
- MALAYA. UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA IN SINGAPORE. Your library: a guide to the library of the University of Malaya, Singapore, 1960. 18 p. 027.7595
- STANFORD. UNIVERSITY. LIBRARIES. Manual for staff members: 3rd ed. Stanford [Calif.], 1959. [3], 20 p. 027.778473
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(To be continued)

REVIEWS

ASLIB. British scientific and technical books, 1953-7: a select list of recommended books published in Great Britain and the Commonwealth. Edited by L. J. Anthony. 1960. ix, 251 pp. (James Clarke, 56s.)

This is a continuation of *British scientific and technical books, 1935-1952* (1956), reviewed in the *RECORD* in February, 1957 (p. 74). That work listed about 7,000 items; this adds a further 4,000. "The pattern", states the Introduction, "follows the earlier bibliography in that entries are based on those in the *Aslib book-list* and relate primarily to those books published through normal book channels". Government publications, monographs, and reports and papers by societies and institutions are included "only if they contain important contributions to the knowledge of the subject, not otherwise obtainable". Books published in the U.S.A. and distributed in Britain are omitted; so are year-books, directories and most bibliographies, as in the 1935-1952 volume. It is rather misleading to state that this 1953-7 bibliography is based on the *Aslib book-list*. Thus, more than 600 items on medicine are included, whereas the *Aslib book-list* for the period can muster only about 50. On the other hand, this list has no entries under the social sciences (particularly education), whereas the *Aslib book-list* is of value on these fields. So far as science and technology are concerned, this list has been compiled with the help of subject experts and the result is a well-balanced selection for the years covered. There are no annotations, but the scope and suitability of each item is categorized ((A)-(D)) and dates of previous editions are given. The binding is handsome, the layout pleasing, and the detailed "Author or title index", with its cross-references, is a distinct asset.

The period chosen for coverage raises doubts: it is short and there is a time lag of three years. It would have been helpful to have at least given the latest edition of the works listed. (A new edition of Berry and Johnson's *Encyclopaedia of type faces* appeared in 1958 and a third edition of Gibberd's *Town design* appeared in 1959.)

Will this list be much used? If the librarian or information officer requires a selected list, then the *Aslib Selected list of standard British scientific and technical books* (5th ed. 1957), is more likely to suit his purpose, although it only goes up to 1956. If he requires a full check-list, then the

B.N.B. will meet his deeds to date, and not merely to 1957.

A. J. WALFORD

DOWNES (ROBERT B.), editor. *The first freedom: liberty and justice in the world of books and reading.* 1960. pp. xiii, 469. (American L.A., \$8.50).

This is "an anthology of the most notable writings of American and British authors in the field of book censorship and intellectual freedom". It grew out of the A.L.A. Liberty and Justice Book Awards, administered by the A.L.A. Intellectual Freedom Committee, and was conceived as "a permanent reminder of the nature and purpose of the awards". Its editor has combed through more than 1,200 periodical articles and over 100 books on censorship and chosen from them 88 writings to support his view that "every adult should have freedom of choice to read whatever he wants to read, whenever he wants to read it, except for treason, fraud, and pornography". Without those three exceptions there would, of course, be little difficulty about censorship, but as long as they are held to be necessary there will remain the impossibility of defining them in any absolute terms. The arguments, therefore, can never end, and will continue to be directed towards securing a more liberal interpretation of the law through the force of public opinion.

The selections are confined to twentieth-century writers. There is naturally a preponderance of American contributions; of the 88, only 13 are from British writers. They include Havelock Ellis, D. H. Lawrence, Aldous Huxley, Bernard Shaw, John Galsworthy, Osbert Sitwell, W. B. Yeats, and George Orwell. A valuable section is that covering court proceedings, which provides a useful summary of the most important cases.

In this country, when we discuss censorship it is almost always about one aspect of it—obscenity. To such an extent has the battle for political and intellectual freedom been won over here. In America, during the McCarthy era, librarians suddenly found themselves under attack as purveyors of so-called dangerous Communist propaganda. A section of this anthology is devoted to extracts which show how our American colleagues reacted to this menace. To librarians this will be one of the most interesting

parts of the book. It provides a record of one of the most courageous fights in the history of our profession.

This is primarily a reference work, although any reader could dip almost anywhere into it and soon become absorbed. The A.L.A. has produced a valuable and useful book, which should find a place in every large library over here, despite its American bias.

J. T. GILLET

Social science research and libraries: papers and summary proceedings of the Library Seminar on Research in the Social Sciences, New Delhi, 2nd-4th January 1959. Ed. by S. R. Ranganathan and Girja Kumar. 1960. 196 p. (Asia Publishing House, 25s.).

The contents of this collection fall into three groups: three papers deal with the organization of research libraries generally, three with official publications and five with general documentation topics. The third group includes a paper by Dr. Ranganathan on facet-analysis and chain procedure in the social sciences.

Taken as a whole, the Seminar invites comparison with the Conference on Information Methods of Research Workers in the Social Sciences, which was held at Chaucer House in June 1960. The London conference (whose proceedings are in course of publication) was very largely the expression by research workers themselves of their library needs; the New Delhi Seminar reflects a more customary approach of librarians to this subject, with particular reference to India's needs.

In tackling domestic problems, however, the Seminar discussed many topics of interest to librarians in other countries. The universal lack of union lists equivalent to the *World list of scientific periodicals*, the difficulties of co-operative acquisition and subject specialization in a field where subjects are inextricably inter-related, the general poverty of bibliographical organization and control of government publications—these are all matters of common concern. They, and other important matters, are discussed here for the most part lucidly and productively; and the programme for action, which as a series of 73 "Propositions" concludes the Proceedings, is a laudable attempt to get to grips with realities, even though the key question of finance is left unresolved.

Inevitably the papers are uneven in quality and there is some re-treading of familiar ground; accounts of United Nations publications and of

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Unesco's activities are reliably available elsewhere, and the discussions of government publications and of other documentation problems are sometimes laboured, sometimes off the mark. Tabular presentation is used occasionally for effect rather than elucidation, and few statisticians will concur with the contributor who says, "It may be useful . . . to provide some statistical data collected at random". But in spite of such *longeurs* the contributors look squarely at a subject of great importance, and the book deserves the attention of research librarians as well as of students of the social sciences.

P. R. LEWIS

SWANSON (E. B.), *compiler. A century of oil and gas in books.* 1960. xiii, 214 pp. (New York, Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc., \$4.75).

The first oil well was drilled by Colonel Drake in Pennsylvania in 1859 and, in the one hundred years which have passed since then, much has been written on the many varying aspects of the petroleum and gas industry.

The compiler of this descriptive bibliography,

prepared with the assistance of the American Petroleum Institute to assist researchers and librarians seeking information on petroleum, is considered a leading authority on books dealing with petroleum.

His objective was "to include all items published commercially or privately in English, which had to do directly or essentially with some aspect of petroleum", and he has attempted to list and examine all available material known to him up to August 1959.

Over two thousand books published during the past hundred years are included and arranged by aspect, the contents list giving a clear indication of this arrangement. Each entry gives author, title, place of publication, publisher, date, pagination and a brief annotation describing the contents of the book. An author index concludes the bibliography.

This comprehensive and well-produced bibliography will fill a long-standing gap in the guides to petroleum literature and should prove of great value, not only to those in the petroleum industry, but also to those outside who have a need for subject bibliographies.

KENNETH P. WALLER

Obituaries

BAILEY.—We regret to report the death of Mrs. Pauline Bailey, A.L.A., which occurred on 23rd November last, due to a motor accident in which her husband also lost his life.

On leaving school in 1952 Pauline Fernyhough, as she then was, joined the staff of the Library of the University College of North Staffordshire. She remained there for two years then, in order to get additional experience, moved to Newcastle-under-Lyme Public Library. She was given leave of absence to attend the Loughborough School of Librarianship during 1955-56 and in 1959 was appointed Librarian of Cheshire County Library's Sandbach Branch.

Mrs. Bailey had many interests, among them horse-riding, motor sport and skin-diving, but her enthusiasm for librarianship was deep and genuine. Her warm and cheerful manner made her many friends among colleagues and public alike, and her early death at the age of 24, cutting short a happy life and promising career, has come as a great shock to them.

E.H.M.

DOUTHWAITE.—The older members of the Association will have heard with regret of the death on the 7th November, 1960, in his 84th year, of James Lungley Douthwaite, former Librarian, Curator and Director of the Guildhall Library, Museum and Art Gallery, London.

The son of a former Librarian of Gray's Inn, Douthwaite was educated at the City of London School and came straight from school to the Guildhall Library as a junior assistant in 1893. He passed through various positions to become, in 1926, Librarian and Curator in succession to Bernard Kettle. Later, on the death of Sir Alfred Temple, he was appointed Director of the Art Gallery. All these positions he held until he retired in 1943.

Douthwaite was a man of great personality with a phenomenal vitality and drive. These qualities, together with an unbounded pride in, and enthusiasm for, the institutions which he served so well, were the hallmarks of his long service. Perhaps his greatest achievement, amongst many others, was the building up of the collection of London prints and drawings—a subject on which he was an acknowledged expert—to be one of the finest and most comprehensive in existence. He had a flair for finding rare and important items for the library and an even greater one for finding people ready to present such items. An outstanding example was the late Lord Wakefield who, through the advice and enthusiasm of Douthwaite, made so many important gifts to the Library, Museum and Art Gallery.

Douthwaite's interest in the Library did not fade with his retirement. Since that time the Library has been indebted to him for numerous gifts and, through his good offices, has acquired many important items.

Beneath at times a somewhat brusque and mannered exterior was a sympathetic and generous nature. Those of his staff who still remain remember with gratitude the many instances shown to them of this side of his character.

A. H. HALL

SQUIRES.—We regret to note the death of Mr. R. T. Squires, A.L.A., Branch Librarian, Westminster Public Libraries, on 28th November, 1960. Mr. Squires, in addition to his library duties, was a keen and efficient member of the Civil Defence organization of the borough during and after the war.

Appointments and Retirements

BARTON.—Mr. S. Barton, F.L.A., Technical Assistant, Staffordshire Co.L., to be Deputy County Librarian.

BRAZIER.—Miss G. M. Brazier to be employed at Golders Green Branch, Hendon P.L.

BURROWS.—Mr. B. C. Burrows, Information Officer and Librarian, Associated Engineering Ltd., Leamington Spa, to be Information Officer and Librarian, Associated Engineering Ltd., Group Research and Development, Causton, Rugby.

DENT.—Miss J. Dent, Assistant, Burnley P.L., to be Assistant, Kensington P.L.

DICKSON.—Mr. A. J. Dickson, B.A., A.L.A., Librarian, Geo. Wimpey & Co. Ltd., Southall, to be Sub-Librarian, Wellcome Historical Medical Library.

DOBSON.—Miss E. Dobson, A.L.A., Library Assistant, Ulverston Region, Lancs. Co.L., to be Assistant Librarian, Lancs. Co.L. Hq.

ELDRIDGE.—Miss J. Eldridge, A.L.A., Senior Librarian, Hackney P.L., to be Librarian-in-charge, Tate (Branch) Library, Lambeth P.L.

FANNING.—Mr. D. C. Fanning, Assistant, Golders Green Branch, Hendon P.L., to be Library Assistant, Library of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn.

FOSTER.—Mr. J. H. Foster, Branch Librarian, Wellington Branch, Somerset Co.L., to be in the Cataloguing Section, Hampshire Co.L.

FRANCIS.—Miss S. Francis, A.L.A., Assistant Lending Librarian, Birkenhead P.L., to be Children's Librarian, Chester P.L.

GOODCHILD.—Mr. C. R. Goodchild, Librarian, Seafarers' Education Service and College of the Sea, to retire.

HALLS.—Miss C. M. E. Halls, B.A., Senior Assistant, Manchester P.L., to be Assistant Librarian, Toronto P.L.

HODDINOTT.—Miss F. Hoddinott, A.L.A., Branch Librarian, Malden Branch, Essex Co.L., to be Branch Librarian, Haywards Heath Branch, East Sussex Co.L.

HODKIN.—Miss B. A. Hodkin, Assistant, Sheffield P.L., to be Assistant, Notts. Co.L.

HOYLE.—Mr. J. Hoyle, F.L.A., Branch Librarian, Wavertree District, Liverpool P.L., to be Senior Assistant Librarian, Everton Group, Liverpool P.L.

JACKSON.—Mr. P. G. Jackson, A.L.A., Assistant-in-charge, Massey Music and Gramophone Record Library, Burnley P.L., to be Senior Assistant, Bedworth Regional Library, Warwickshire Co.L.

KEMP.—Mr. D. A. Kemp, Royal Society of Edinburgh, to be employed by British Hydrocarbon Chemicals Ltd., Grangemouth.

LIVESEY.—Mr. J. R. Livesey, A.L.A., Children's Librarian, Accrington P.L., to be Lending Librarian.

LOCKLEY.—Mr. R. H. Lockley, F.L.A., Senior Assistant, Hornchurch Branch, Essex Co.L., to be Deputy Borough Librarian, Burton-on-Trent.

LONEY.—Miss E. V. Loney, A.L.A., Reference & Technical Librarian, Guildford P.L., to be Assistant Reference Librarian, Battersea P.L.

MACDONALD.—Miss M. E. Macdonald, A.L.A., Deputy County Librarian, Staffordshire Co.L., to be County Librarian.

STRICKLAND.—Mr. J. T. Strickland, F.L.A., Deputy Director of Library Services, Ghana Library Board, to be Chief Librarian, Sierra Leone Library Board.

TURTON.—Mr. E. P. Turton, B.A., Library Assistant, Standish Branch, Lancs. Co.L., to be Assistant Librarian, Lancs. Co.L. Hq.

Appointments Vacant

Chartered Librarians are advised to refrain from applying for any post in public libraries demanding Registration Qualifications (A.L.A. or F.L.A.) which is advertised in the General or Clerical Divisions of the National Scales or in accordance with the Miscellaneous Salary Scales.

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A.L.A. *Cataloging rules for author and title entries*. 2nd ed. 1949. Perfect condition. 30s. Apply Miss E. M. Marton, 22 The Avenue, Hatch End, Middlesex.

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Contributions and communications (including advertisements) should be sent to the Editor, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1, by the 15th of the month preceding that of publication (Tel. Eus. 5856 ext. 9)

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THE LITERATURE OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

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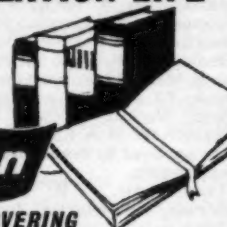
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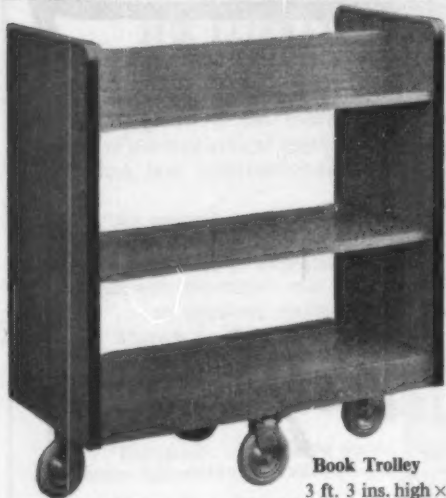
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